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# YouthCAN Kicks Off Green Roof

By B. Kim, III  
EDITORIAL BOARD ASSOCIATE

Classes on the roof. An environmentally sound energy system. 350 parts per million of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. This is what Boston Latin School's Youth Climate Action Network (YouthCAN) envisions with their proposed plans for a green roof, officially the "Boston Latin School Sustainable Roofscape Learning Lab." Their goal is to reduce the school's carbon footprint, educate BLS students about climate change, and influence other colleges and institutions to follow our example.

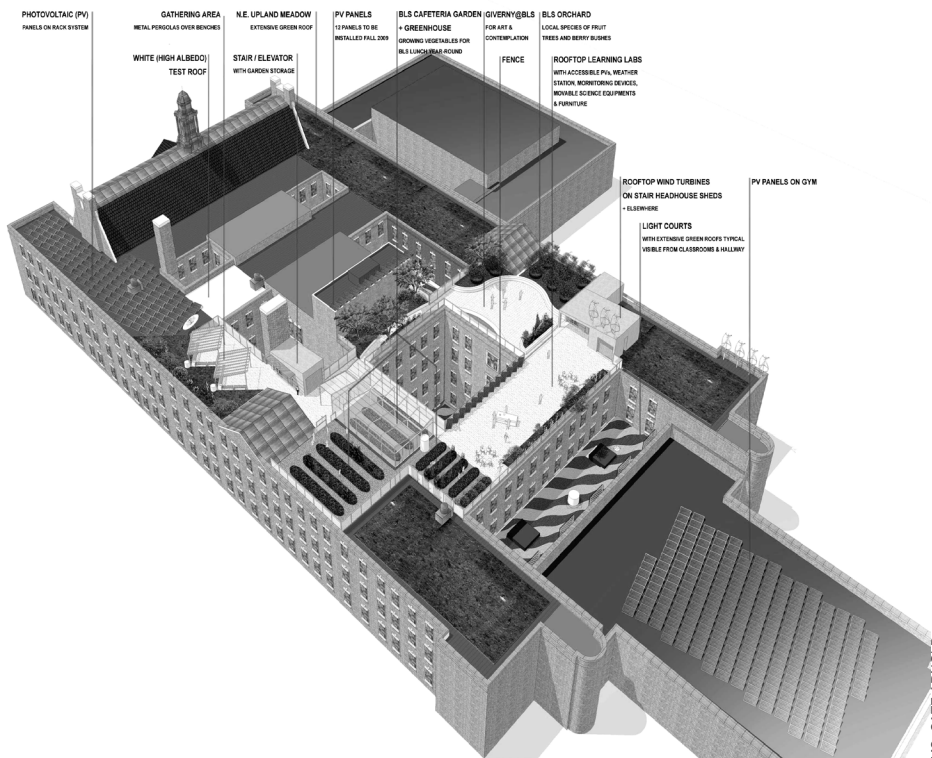
Since YouthCAN's inception in January 2007 by members of the class of 2011, its achievements- and its goals- have grown substantially.

The group started out doing simple things-selling energy-efficient fluorescent light bulbs and getting students to recycle their lunch trays. Four months after its founding, the students of YouthCAN hosted their first annual Global Climate Change Youth Summit. There, more than 200 students from 47 schools all over Massachusetts participated in workshops and listened to several influential speakers. The next year, the students held their second annual Youth Summit in partnership with MIT and with support from the National Wildlife Federation. The third Annual Summit was held in 2009, funded by the National Grid Foundation.

After receiving recommendations for how to increase the school's energy efficiency from an energy audit in December 2008, students came up with the revolutionary idea to "green" BLS further. A representative of a local green roof company presented different types of green roofs at BLS and helped YouthCAN make a plan for their roof. It is by far the biggest project they have undertaken.

BLS students and faculty, as well as many outside organizations, have been highly involved in this project. "It's really exciting to see kids from different grades having such good chemistry and getting things done," says Rebecca Park (III), a student leader of YouthCAN.

YOUTHCAN  
Continued on page 4



GREEN ROOF BLUEPRINT

MS. CATE ARNOLD

# Mixed Feelings for Mix It Up Day

By NAOMI LEONARD, III  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students and teachers at Boston Latin School recently united to combat an issue that has become increasingly important: bullying. The students involved in this campaign constitute the RESPECT initiative, a group that hopes to teach BLS students to be more conscious of one another's feelings through a series of school-wide events. The events are designed to achieve this goal by making people more aware of social groups in the school and by promoting a sense of community instead of the atmosphere of competition that is so prevalent at our school.

The RESPECT initiative's latest event, "Mix It Up Day," seeks to dismantle cliques for a whole day. RESPECT hopes that on "Mix It Up Day," students all over the school will sit with people at lunch with whom they wouldn't usually socialize. According to its Facebook event page (an invitation to which was sent to

hundreds of Boston Latin School students earlier this month), "Mix It Up Day" is being held "to promote breaking down social barriers and stop bullying around the school".

And the event isn't just taking place at Boston Latin School. Schools all over the country will "mix it up" on November 10, and many did so last year as well. According to a survey, 97% of the organizers of last year's event said that it led to positive interactions between students, 83% said that it helped people to make new friends outside of their normal social group, and 92% said that it really did help students to realize how divided their school was by social groups.

Even though Mix It Up Day has yielded positive results at other schools, some people are still unenthusiastic about the idea because they do not understand what Mix It Up Day entails, why they are being asked to participate in it, or think that it will accomplish its goals. Mix It Up Day is the final day of a seven

day campaign to raise awareness of social divisions. On the six days prior to Mix It Up Day, students are requested, but not required, to wear a shirt of a specific color. Monday, October 2 will be red, Tuesday dark blue, Wednesday green, Thursday blue, Friday purple, and Monday, October 9 any color. On the next day, everyone is asked to wear a white shirt. During the school day on Tuesday, every student will be given a wristband of one of six colors and will sit with people who have the same color wristband.

Mix It Up Day is being strongly supported by some who see it as a great idea that will make students take more notice of the negative effects of the social atmosphere at the school, even if it does not actually inspire students to change it. Others, however, see it as students being forced to spend time with people whom they do not want to spend time with and taking away from time with their friends. If people will change their minds about Mix It Up Day remains to be seen.

## Global News Tidbits

>>>Last week, 24-year-old Mohammed Patel of Bolton was sentenced to four and a half years in prison, after being convicted of a fraud that cost insurance companies £1.6 million. Patel was accused of staging 93 car accidents, benefitting financially from each, by charging people £500 to pretend that they were in the vehicle, allowing them to claim compensation for injuries. He was arrested by the police of Greater Man-

chester, who had kept a close watch on him. The money Patel received from his fraud was spent on vacations, gifts, and luxury cars for his unemployed girlfriend. (Reuters)

>>>A 41-year-old male from Blomberg, Germany is facing a second set of charges after robbing a store, which was located next to a supermarket that he had robbed a few days prior. The man had been on his way to the police station to face interrogation for the previous theft. (Reuters)

>>>Vladimir Komarov, a 50-year-old coal miner from Chelyabinsk, Russia, who is

suffering from lung disease, is putting his most prized possession on the market, a signed picture of Brigitte Bardot. The bachelor, who holds an unfathomable love for the sultry French actress, hopes to cover the costs of medical treatment by collecting at least 61,000 roubles (\$2,090) for the autograph. Unfortunately for Komarov, previous autographed photos of Bardot sold online had a starting price of only \$45. (AFP)

>>>Stan Martell had fallen asleep while fishing on the Lynne River in Northwestern Australia when he was

awoken by a storm that pushed his boat into a mangrove tree, causing it to tip over into crocodile-infested waters. Acting quickly, Martell climbed up the tree and took refuge just as two huge crocodiles arrived, circling the base of the tree. Martell clung to the branch he was on for about 12 hours before help arrived on the scene. Not one to be discouraged by such a disaster, Martell states that he is eager to return to the area "as soon as [he] gets [his] boat back." (Yahoo News)



# News

## Editor's Note

Dear Argo Readers,

I am hysterical right now. I'm not sure if people understand how crazy the Argo is—might I say, for those Yung Joc fans out there (I'm looking at you, Class VI!)—"bookoo" crazy. The term "bookoo" is a corruption of the French word *beaucoup*, and is used primarily in New Orleans as a synonym for the words "much" or many." For example: the Argo requires bookoo work. I have not had bookoo amounts of sleep. I bookoo slave for this newspaper.

And I think the Argo has the largest claim in all of Boston Latin School on slaves. Although "Final Friday," the last day of production week, is stressful, our slaves generally enjoy themselves. Copy slaves try to figure out Lady Gaga songs on the guitar. Sports slaves distract layout slaves. Editor slaves eat pizza. See? Mr. Flynn feeds us. Who needs money, or freedom, or a life on Friday night when they have free pizza?

Right now, it's about 12:09 pm, Saturday the 24th. I'm in JP Licks still working on this newspaper with about six other people, with nine laptops between us. I'm honestly really proud to be a part of this tradition, even if it takes up a giant portion of my life. Here are the numbers: 5, 6, 15, and 0.

Five is the number that represents

how many hours of sleep I get a day on production week. Six is the amount of meals I have a day, because food calms me down (shut up, Ciaran Foley, I'm not fat!). Fifteen represents how many hours I spend on Friday at school...straight. And finally, according to William Poff-Webster, zero is the number of lives I have during production week. Great.

But putting the craziness aside, I'm pretty confident that we have an amazing Argo for you. This is the first issue of the year, and our first official, in-charge issue ever. There's a new hierarchy at JP Licks today, and I have to say it's working out quite alright. We've got a new ADVICE COLUMN that exposes shocking teacher-student relations; we've also got a story about not one, but two victories under BLS Football's belt. And by the time you're through reading this, we (the editors-in-chief) will have had a whole issue under our belt. Tell us what you think! We hope you'll be bookoo pleased.

Will here. Wow, Andy Vo is weird... I somehow manage to keep my life in order, and not grow 500 lbs., while writing the

Argo. I'm not quite sure how he manages to make this into such a big deal... it's only writing, editing, and laying out 20 pages of text and pictures to inform the Boston Latin School community. No big deal.

If what they say about opposites attracting is true, we'll do a great job this year.

Happy reading,  
Will Poff-Webster  
Andy Vo

P.S. Because I didn't get to go to the masquerade ball due to a massive Argo overdose, Andy and I decided to dance the night away in my kitchen. While amazing layout editor Faith Zeng works quietly in the background.



## H1N1 Vaccine in Short Supply

By BRIGHDY McDONOUGH, II  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In recent weeks, news about H1N1 has resurfaced due to a delay in widespread provision of vaccinations, as well as President Barack Obama's declaration of H1N1 as a national emergency. The new vaccine was recently approved by the FDA and was expected to be distributed to the public. However, due to an extreme shortage of the vaccine, only those at risk of severe illness, such as pregnant women and infants, currently have guaranteed access. The elderly are not especially susceptible to the disease and have to wait for the vaccine to become publicly available.

"More vaccinations are expected to be available at local health care clinics in late November," said a representative for the Boston Public Health Commission. "As of right now, clinics have not been given any shots but are scheduled to receive some in December along with school-based clinics." The Center for

Disease Control announced that they hoped to have a total 200 million doses out at that time. The federal government is expected to deliver weekly vaccinations to primary care providers to add to the current supply.

Many have concerns about the safety of the shot. However, "so far there are no



reported health risks of the H1N1 vaccine," according to a clinical liaison for the Laboure Visiting Nurse Service. Doctors recommend that people get the shot as soon as it becomes available to them.

The H1N1 vaccine was created in a second form: a nasal spray, known as "FluMist." It exposes the immune system to the virus to fortify the body's defenses against the disease. Anyone receiving the nasal spray will then become a carrier of the H1N1 flu and must be very careful so as to not come into contact with anyone with weakened immune systems.

The nasal spray is currently in short supply and is not for sale, but manufacturers are working to produce more. It is only available for those ages 2-49.

Preventative measures have been developed to combat infection. Blowing one's nose and gargling with salt water at least once a day protect the body's primary points of entry from the virus. Swine flu cannot be contracted by eating pork.

Reported deaths in children, teenagers, and young adults have been increasing rapidly in the United States. On the national scale, 65% of deaths were people of age 25-64, 24% were under 25, and only 11% were 65 and over.

Boston Latin School *Argo*  
2009-2010 Academic Year

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President

By TADESH INAGAKI, I  
SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT

Students, teachers, administrators, parents, lowerclassmen, upperclassmen, guidance counselors, custodians, Officer Manny, and the SENIOR CLASS OF 2010 -- it is such a privilege to be writing this. I can't tell you how excited I am to have been given the opportunity this year to help organize and lead as senior class president. We have an amazing year ahead of us. First, however, I owe some serious thanks. To my campaign manager/supervisor/organizer/general enthusiast, Al -- thank you. I wouldn't be here without you. To my editor/critiquer/emotional-supporter/everything-else, Elodie -- thank you. I would be in an insane asylum without you. To all the seniors who put their faith in me during the recent elections, thank you so much. And to everyone in the senior class of 2010, I will not let you down.

Before we move forward this year, lets take a second to look back. Remember that sixie (or b-sie) who walked into Boston Latin years ago? Remember the new pencil case, the new backpack, and the nervously selected outfit? Personally, I remember a pudgy boy with a gap-toothed smile and hair parted straight down the middle. Its unbelievable. We've grown up so much. Back then, we were the small, dorky kids scurrying down the hallway, hidden under our backpacks. Now we're the big, dorky people who have learned to buy all our textbooks on amazon. But the point isn't how attractive we've become. It's how good we should feel.

When this school year began, I



TADESH INAGAKI, CLASS I

realized that, as a senior, things look different. The once wide, intimidating halls of sixie year have grown smaller in every dimension -- they seem hardly able hold us in. Classrooms are no longer scary, teachers no long intimidating, nor the auditorium a breathtaking spectacle. None of us are who we were the first day we walked into this school. After five years of cramming and stress and long tests and long nights, its finally our time. For the next seven months, we own this place. It's my job to make sure we never forget it. With such a great job, I would say that I cannot wait to begin working, but we've all already been working tirelessly for years at BLS. So maybe it makes more sense to say, I cannot wait to keep working, to unify our class, to bring new ideas, and to make this year the best it can be. And we're the 375th class of Boston Latin School. We are what legends are made of.

Secretary

By BEATA COLOYAN, I  
SENIOR CLASS SECRETARY

Hey everyone! I would like to thank each and every one of you who voted for me in this election. Without you, I would not be able to hold this position. I truly feel honored that you have faith in me, and I will try my best to live up to your standards and expectations.

So now that I hold this position, you are probably wondering what I plan to do. During our speeches, Mrs. Mooney-Teta stressed that we were not allowed to make any promises. Now that I rightfully hold the role of secretary, I can promise you many things.

I guarantee to let you know about payments in advance! There has been some confusion in regard to the 'Cap and Gown' money, I assure you that it will not happen again. I promise to keep everyone informed about upcoming plays, sports games, hypnotist shows, assemblies, etc. If an event is going to happen, I will know about it. I promise to document each and every major event that is going on this year so that we can laugh about it at our 25th reunion. I will listen to all of your questions; if I do not have an answer for you, I will find someone who does. I



BEATA COLOYAN, CLASS I

promise that I will never use Latin in a slogan again, and that sometime this year, I will make muffins for everyone.

Most of all, I promise that I will put the interests of the class first, and will do my best to make this the best senior year Boston Latin School has ever seen. We have all been here for at least a third of our lives! Let us make it a good one!

Vice President

By OLIVIA COLLINS, I  
SENIOR CLASS VICE PRESIDENT

We have seven months and 15 days before we are under a tent at the Pavilion, cheering for all of our classmates, playing "Keep It Up" with beach balls, and receiving the diplomas that will be very meaningful to our future. During those months, we will be applying to college, attending events, and spending as much time as we can with one another to make this year memorable. Senior year is the year we will come together before we embark on a new journey next year. This year marks the beginning of the end, and although I wish it were not, I am happy that finally, we are beginning to unite as a class. It was only in the eighth grade that I became a part of the Class of 2010, and I was welcomed with open arms, and that is something for which I am very grateful.

When my mother decided to hold me back in the eighth grade, I thought that my life was over, but little did I know that it was just the beginning. Three and a half years later, I am fortunate enough to be one of the representatives of the Class of 2010. If it were not for everyone in the senior class, I would not be lucky enough to be here today. As vice president of the Class of 2010, I plan on trying to make an impact on the school, along with the president, the secretary, and the treasurer to make this year an unforgettable one. We are creating history as the 375th graduating class. In order to represent



OLIVIA COLLINS, CLASS I

unity, the four representatives will try to interconnect grades and create a support system where students can feel comfortable together while being themselves. If there is one thing that I will take out of my years here, it is to appreciate the times we spend together, and to open up to different kinds of people. What we gain from that is up to us.

Treasurer

By ELI HOFFMAN, I  
SENIOR CLASS TREASURER

Hello, Class of 2010 and historic 375th graduating class! I would like to thank all of you for your support and electing me treasurer of your senior class.

Treasurer is a tough job, but I feel that I am fully prepared to handle it. As treasurer, I am not only responsible for keeping track of the money our class raises, but also helping to come up with ideas of how to raise it. Many of the other candidates had great ideas and I do not want these to go to waste. And so, I not only have several of my own ideas for how to raise money but also ideas from others.

One of my biggest fundraising ideas for this year is customized t-shirts, and other paraphernalia, such as hats and wristbands. Seeing as this is a historic class, students should want to show their school pride more than ever.

I would like to organize events that get the whole school together, such as a student-faculty kickball or dodgeball game. The student-faculty basketball games have been wildly successful, and I think doing a sport where anyone can play would do even better.

Some of my more unique ideas include a hot dog eating contest and spare change jars in every senior homeroom. Students can show off their fantastic ability to stuff themselves, while their friends have even more fun just watching them. The spare change jars are very minor, but could end up raising quite a bit of money



ELI HOFFMAN, CLASS I

by year's end. If every senior homeroom gets even 2 or 3 dollars per week, that adds up to a couple hundred dollars by the end of the year.

I want to make sure this is your best year at BLS. If you have any ideas, do not be afraid to suggest them to me. Fundraisers will only work if the students are interested. I'd love to hear your feedback.

School News Tidbits

>>>>Once again, Boston Latin School reeks of sulfur. This time, it is thanks to construction from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. The land-filled part of Boston has this problem because

anaerobic organisms under the surface of the area emit sulfuric gas. When institutions in the area dig into the earth, they release the gas, flooding the surrounding region with the pungent smell. >>>>Attention former students of Mrs. McCourt! Some of your writing folders

have been found! Please come to Ms. Moran's room on the 5th floor to retrieve them. Mrs. McCourt would collect folders at the beginning of each school year but would not return them to her students at the end of the year. Since her retirement, they have been reappearing sporadically around the school.

>>>>On Friday, October 23, 2009, the fire alarm went off after school. The entire Argo staff poured out of the music wing and waited for about 15 minutes with other dedicated students who were still at school after 3:00 on a Friday. The cause of the fire drill remains to be determined.



# Club Fever

By **Kenneth Cruz, V**  
Contributing Writer

Making my way through the mass of students at the extracurricular fair, I came across four appealing new clubs: Reality Check Newspaper, Japanese Language and Culture Club (JLCC), International Culture Club (ICC), and the Ogra newsletter.

Reality Check Newspaper is one of the two new newspapers at Boston Latin School, founded by Rashad Hossain (III). The afterschool meetings are on Wednesdays in Room 217. “It is a hilarious paper that is bound to make every student laugh,” claimed Hossain, who is hoping that Reality Check will be a success.

The requirements for submissions to this new comedic surprise? Nothing. Just “keep the jokes in and leave profanity at home.” But the success of Reality Check comes at a price. The club is in dire need of financial sponsors to pay for printing an issue every month. Also, Reality Check has the challenge of competing with the Argo and the other startup paper, the Ogra. At the moment, a definite student staff has not been chosen. This gives anyone interested the opportunity to take advantage of what Reality Check offers.

The Japanese Language and Culture Club is another new addition to the wide variety of clubs in the BLS community. The goal of the JLCC is to foster the understanding of Japanese culture and language through fun, exhilarating activities. At the beginning of every meeting, they learn a few, short Japanese phrases. They also have “contests every month for food prizes!” according to Co-President Amy Trankiem (IV). The rest of

the staff includes Co-President Melissa Fernandez (IV), Vice President Kevin Leung (IV), and Secretary/Treasurers Eva Poon (IV) and Jenny Pham (IV). The club meetings are on Wednesdays in Mrs. Nabefeld’s room, 231. The JLCC plans to host trips to museums, hold bakesales with Japanese food, and even travel to local Japanese restaurants. The Japanese community in Boston may be hidden, but the heart and soul of Japanese culture lives in the halls of

Boston Latin as the JLCC.

The International Culture Club (ICC) is taking on the challenge of bringing not only one culture to our school, but a mixture of all cultures from across the globe.

There are many clubs at Boston Latin which are geared towards a specific culture, but the ICC was established so that members of various different ethnic backgrounds

can learn about and enjoy the heritage of others.

Co-President Xinlan Li (III) stated that ICC’s message is to “open peoples’ eyes and show them how cultures blend and mix.” Meetings are held on Wednesdays in 334, Mr. Galego’s room. “Open to all classes!” stated Li. The other Co-President is Lilian Liang (III). The rest of the staff includes Deirdre Buckley (II), Vivian Nguyen (II), Kevin Liang (III), Lily Wu (II), Ines

Tamajong (II), Lily Lin (III), and Dominick Zheng (III).

ICC’s next major event is the International Buffet on October 28. They will also have a bake sale in January.

I also spoke with the Co-Presidents of the new newspaper, the Ogra. Eli Hoffman (I) and Aadhar Mahajan (I) enthusiastically explained how the Ogra will work. At the bi-weekly Wednesday meetings in the electronic classroom members will discuss topics for articles. If someone cannot make it to the meeting, they can email their ideas in.

The first issue of the Ogra will be a page long, unless they receive extra funding. This paper is more of a free-for-all; there are no specific sections for articles, so there is a wide array of possibilities. Though the members of the Ogra will express how they feel about current events through their pieces, the main point is to have fun. “We’re not writing reports,” explained Hoffman. “We have events planned, but they won’t be revealed just yet,” Mahajan added.

All four clubs are attracting new members to take part in the activities, trips, or events they have planned this year. They want YOU to join!



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# Editor-in-Chief Loses Election

## Tadesh Inagaki Wins

By **Emily Cirillo, I**  
Staff Writer

A few weeks ago, the senior hallway was covered head to toe with colorful posters. This could only mean one thing: senior class elections. This year’s senior class elections occurred during the week of October 13-16, with speeches Wednesday, October 14 and the final vote on Friday the 16.

The top vote getters in the preliminaries were: Tadesh Inagaki (I) and William Poff-Webster (I) for class president; Olivia Collins (I) and David Ma (I) for vice president; Beata Coloyan (I) and Kimmi Vo (I) for secretary; and Eli Hoffman (I) and Victoria Luu (I) for treasurer. The

senior class voted the Friday after the speeches were given and elected Inagaki, Collins, Coloyan, and Hoffman.

Inagaki won the presidency on a platform of senior privileges and class unity. Most popular of these policies was his Senior Card. The Senior Card is an ID card for the graduating class which gives them points and discounts at local establishments, like Starbucks and Boloco.

The race for vice president was by far the closest of the four. Collins beat Ma by a thin margin of only five votes. Her most vocal supporters broadcasted their opinion with “OC 4 VP” T-shirts. After winning, Collins said, “I want to thank everyone for their support, and I



HE DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE TAKING THIS hope to fulfill your expectations. Let's make this year great!"

Coloyan won about 67% of the vote. In her speech she talked about how she

learned her organization skills from Mrs. Tolbert Johnson’s 10th grade English class and her communication skills from BLSTV. Following up on one of her campaign promises, Coloyan swore, “annoying senior bulletins are coming your way!”

Hoffman beat Luu with about 68% of the vote. His campaign gained support as a result of his Randy Moss “Straight Cash Homie” posters and his impassioned speech, in which he pounded his fist on the podium and declared, “the budget must be balanced!” Hoffman was shocked by his victory, saying, “Thank you all who voted. Victoria ran a great campaign. You would have chosen right with either of us.”

MAYA JONAS-SILVER (I)

### YouthCAN

*Continued from page 1*

BLS faculty has also stepped up to the plate. Mr. Gibbons is working on compost and Mr. Balicki on energy. Ms. Hauck, Ms. Bateman and Mr. Long are other teachers who are working on developing a curriculum to educate for sustainability in all disciplines. They hope that Massachusetts will require the curriculum in schools across the state so that students will learn to see the bigger picture and become “systems thinkers”.

The most significant additions to

the roof are going to include extra classroom space and a greenhouse in which YouthCAN will grow food to be served in the cafeteria. This is in association with the Farm to School movement, which brings healthy food from local farms to schools nationwide.

“The most exciting thing for me is the capacity that this has beyond BLS. How much it has motivated the people at BLS,” said Ms. Cate Arnold, “and the potential that it has to make sustainability something teachers can connect with in any class, is thrilling to me.” Since September, over \$10,000 has been raised for 350 trays, which are one-by-two plantings

of greenery for \$40 apiece. According to Park, these plantings are supposed to grow all year long unaffected by the weather, similarly to turf that is bought and rolled out on lawns.

The trays were placed on the BLS roof on Saturday, October 24, the International Day of Climate Action, and are now visible from the music wing. October 24 was also the day of the 350 block party, held by YouthCAN in the BLS cafeteria in conjunction with 350.org. 350.org was established early last spring after NASA determined that our atmosphere’s carbon content must be reduced to approximately 350 parts per million to

ensure the health of the planet. More than 5200 events were held on Sunday in 181 countries across the world.

Over 200 people attended and many activities were held for students from all over Boston. The BLS Step Squad supplied entertainment and the Upper Crust, a local pizzeria, donated food. Meanwhile, Mr. Watson and some students donned cow costumes and grilled veggie burgers.

Park was very excited about the block party, saying that YouthCAN’s next step is to obtain enough funding to “really move forward and have enough money to make it actually happen.”

*before*



*after*



THE ROOF OF BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL, NOW AND AFTER YOUTHCAN'S PROPOSED CHANGES

MS. CATE ARNOLD

MS. CATE ARNOLD



# News

## BLS Welcomes Our Newest Teachers

BY VANYA ZVONAR, III  
& TONI JONAS-SILVER, IV  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS



**Ms. Baker**

Ms. Baker teaches World History I and U.S. History II. Before coming to Boston Latin School, Ms. Baker got her master's degree from Harvard and was a student teacher at Brighton High School. She graduated from BLS in 2000 and loves history because "through the process of asking questions about history, students come to a more in-depth and complex understanding of their own lives."

**Ms. Diamond**

A former martial artist from New York State, Ms. Jesse Diamond attended the University of Massachusetts Boston, where she received a bachelor's degree in English. She then got her master's degree in English at Brown University, where she studied creative writing and poetry. Later, she attained a master's of fine arts in playwriting from Brandeis. Additionally, she taught at UMass Boston and at Dorchester High School. Ms. Diamond says she came to Boston Latin School "to be in an educational environment to share knowledge fully," without "having to battle discipline problems."



**Mr. Gels**

Mr. Gels teaches 8th grade theater and is the director for most of the theater productions. He says he loves theater because it's a fun subject that is active and requires creativity. He has been doing it for years for nothing and is now getting paid. Before coming to work at Boston Latin School, Mr. Gels was a student at Boston University and worked as a student teacher at Cambridge Rindge and Latin. He graduated from BLS in 2005, attending Latin with this year's seniors. In his free time, he performs with two improv troupes and plays mindless online games.



**Ms. Hausey**

A live rock and roll photographer from Texas, Ms. Hausey studied the classics at the University of Houston and got her masters in Latin and Greek at Boston University. She previously taught at BLS and just returned from Boston Latin Academy. Right now she is teaching eighth grade latin.



**Ms. Kilbourn**

Originally from Montana, Ms. Kilbourn had also lived in Missouri before moving to Massachusetts. She attended Evergreen State College in Washington State University and Pomona College. She received a bachelor's degree in political science. Later, Ms. Kilbourn attended the University of Wisconsin and Tufts University, where she received her master's degree in teaching. In addition to the experience gained from college, she has also traveled around the world, visiting over 25 countries. She previously taught at Boston International High School and Boston Arts Academy.

**Ms. Maund**

Ms. Maund, Boston Latin School's newest assistant headmaster, is a native of Boston. She majored in special education at Loyola University and also attended Howard University, Cambridge College, and Simmons College, where she majored in urban education leadership. Ms. Maund has spent numerous years teaching and administrating in the Boston Public School system. Before she came to Latin School she was at English High.



**Mr. Richter**

Originally from New Hampshire, Mr. Richter attended Worcester Polytechnic Institute, where he majored in mechanical engineering. last year he received his masters from the Boston Teacher Residency. He says that BLS is a great place to start his career and learn a lot from other teachers.

**Mr. Rudder**

A Dorchester local, Mr. Rudder majored in secondary math and education at Boston State College. He has taught in Boston for many years, most recently at English High. He was also a math coach for seven years, and has played semi-pro basketball in Weymouth after college. He now teaches eighth grade algebra.

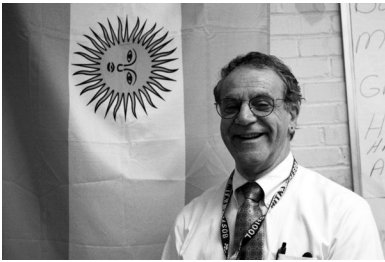
**Mr. Ruzzo**

A local, Mr. Ruzzo attended Worcester State where he had a dual major in economics and history. He got his master's from UMass Boston and also has a law degree. Previously he taught at English High and Snowden, among others. He was a sergeant in the army and a volunteer for the US Peace Corps. Currently he is teaching eighth grade US History.



**Ms. Salas**

The library's newest assistant, Ms. Salas was born in Peru and moved to the United States when she was only three years old. She majored in marketing at UMass Boston and then got a job working in the library at UMass. BLS's reputation drew her to the school. Ms. Salas speaks two languages and has a passion for learning more.



**Mr. Santamaria**

Originally from Argentina, Mr. Santamaria moved to the United States when he was only thirteen years old. He attended the University of Massachusetts as an undergraduate before pursuing his graduate studies at Indiana University, where he majored in Latin American History and Spanish Literature. He has taught economics, history and English as a second language at English High and Snowden. His reason for coming to this school is that "BLS is into excellence," a fact that he greatly admires. He also states that "in California, people have heard of Boston Latin School." he teaches eighth grade Spanish.



**Ms. Segal**

Not many people willingly decide to grow their hair out in order to donate it for a third time in a row. Ms. Segal, however, is one of these people. A native of Massachusetts, she is the newest addition to Boston Latin's team of guidance counselors. Holding a major in sociology from Brandeis University and studies in school counseling at Boston University, Ms. Segal has worked in admissions at Brandeis and served four years as a school counselor at East Boston High. She decided to come to BLS in search of a "new environment, new adventure, [and] new experience."



**Ms. Tucker**

An avid kayaker from Fairhaven, Massachusetts, Ms. Tucker is replacing Ms. McLain as Boston Latin School's newest librarian. She attended the University of Massachusetts and the University of Rhode Island, where she earned her Masters Degree in English. She also has an MA in library science from Simmons. Before holding a job at Boston Latin, she also worked at a few other schools, including East Bridgewater High School. Ms. Tucker states that she came to work at Boston Latin because she student taught at the school and wished to return.

**Mr. Williams**

Mr. Williams is one of Boston Latin's newest math teachers. He teaches eighth grade algebra.

### Help Raise Money for the BLS Green Roof!

As the green roof initiative progresses, the school needs money to fund the structural analysis for the roof before we can ask larger donors for money. The school needs your help! You can buy a T-shirt, or volunteer to sell them yourself. Catalogs are in Ms. Arnold's room (025). All the shirts have individual numbers, the number of people who are standing up to combat climate change. The shirts have multiple different sayings on the back including Carpool, Lights Off, Recycle, Wind, Organic, Shower Together, and Bike. The shirts are 20\$ and BLS gets 15% of the profit. You can buy one yourself, or sell them to your family, friends, and community. Help BLS go green and sell shirts today!



*if you want your ad  
in the BLS Argo,  
email blsargo@  
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FORUM

# Government: Back Off Healthcare

BY KATHLEEN MELLO, II  
& ELZA LAMBERGS, II  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Healthcare reform is a hot topic these days, with various forms of legislation pending in Congress driven by President Obama and other Democratic political leaders. The proponents of healthcare reform state two goals: to reduce the cost of healthcare—as the United States spends a fairly high percentage of its Gross Domestic Product on healthcare in comparison to other countries—and to provide coverage to uninsured Americans who number anywhere from 20 to 48 million. Presently, roughly 83% of Americans have health insurance, and while they are generally happy with the care they receive, cost is certainly still an issue.

Here’s the big question: Do we really need a radical and costly overhaul of the system? Or is it simply better to work on private sector solutions and improve the current system (which is, in fact, providing excellent coverage to over 83% of the population)?

The latest estimated cost of the healthcare reform proposal is in excess of \$900 billion, a sum which

will be paid off over the next ten years. The government claims that this plan will reduce our spiraling national deficit by \$80 billion. Because there is no legislation in place, however, these numbers are bound to change. In fact, Democrats recently proposed a \$400 billion increase in Medicare that was originally included as part of the healthcare reform legislation. If one takes this new proposal into account, the cost is closer to \$1.3 trillion in the best case scenario. In retrospect of past major government spending initiatives—including Medicare and Social Security—it seems that government spending estimates have always been far too low. Therefore, the true cost of this plan is completely unknown—but it is virtually certain that it will add to our already-soaring deficit.

There is also the question of whether the government should even be involved in the management of our healthcare. Past

government involvement in healthcare has never turned out well. For example, Medicare, the only healthcare program currently run by the government, is entirely mismanaged. Hoping to improve the situation, the Democrats have proposed \$500 billion of savings for the Medicare budget—money that can only be achieved through efficiency and fraud. And we’re going to let the government start a more expansive plan even after they admitted their own mismanagement and fraud in relation to Medicare? Sounds like a great idea.

A recent poll by Rasmussen Reports shows that 64 % of Americans do not wish for any change in their healthcare. Currently, the United States has the best

a severe back condition which required surgery, but she could not receive the surgery for another whole year. Since the pain on her aging body proved too much to handle, Woodkey eventually drove to Montana. She received the \$50,000 surgery in a matter of two days and now lives a pain-free life.

Perhaps the most important question to consider is: Has there actually been a government-controlled program that has worked effectively? In Massachusetts, since its Universal Healthcare proposal came into effect, the cost of healthcare has grown by 42 percent, bearing evidence that the healthcare system in Massachusetts is not successful at cost control. This is only a glimpse of what is likely to occur with President Obama’s plan.

The rising cost of healthcare is a problem, but President Obama’s plan is not the solution. One potentially effective way out is building interstate competition between healthcare providers. In every state, a certain company holds a monopoly (for example, Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Massachusetts). If more competition developed between companies, costs would be driven down and healthcare would become more affordable.

Regarding coverage, the best option would probably be for the government to purchase insurance from private insurance companies to provide basic coverage for the uninsured. This would be far more cost-effective and is likely to produce better results.

In short, the plan currently being proposed cannot achieve the goals of cost reduction and extended coverage. The most likely outcome of the adoption of this proposal would be an explosion of the national debt. Increased debt would stifle economic growth, and this, in turn, would reduce the quality of healthcare. Healthcare reform may be necessary, but private solutions are clearly more favorable than reforms undertaken by the government.

Recently, the school has made an attempt to resolve one of the longstanding issues surrounding its cafeteria: food quality. One day, the pizza started to look... well, edible. The new pizza comes fresh from the oven, uses decent quality bread, and has much less grease than ever before. The old pizza is now a thing of the past (hopefully), something the class of 2015 will never have to endure.

But can you call an eating place that serves an acceptable slice of pizza at \$2.25 a dining hall? There are still no vegetarian options and not enough time to eat. And seniors of first and second lunch can’t even find seating in the exclusive senior section of the cafeteria. In third lunch, on the other hand, sixties have been able to relish a privilege that most seniors are getting for the first time in their life.

So this caps the review of our miserable cafeteria. For those of you who missed its horrific past, you now have gotten a glimpse of what the 2010 seniors have had to endure. But even if you’ve only been around for a couple of months, you can tell that the cafeteria is not worthy enough to be considered a dining hall.



HEALTHCARE COSTS - ARE THEY OUT OF OUR COUNTRY'S REACH?

healthcare in the world. You don’t see people leaving to go to Canada or Europe for medical care. Everyone comes here. The United States is home to world class doctors and breakthrough-technology in the medical field. Why should this change? Government-run healthcare will lead to decreased patient flexibility, longer lines at the doctor’s office, and a decline in the quality of medical care.

An early October edition of the Wall Street Journal provided an example of this. In Canada, one of the first countries to have government-run healthcare, a 72-year-old woman named Christina Woodkey developed excruciating pain in her legs. She went to her local clinic and was told to see a hip specialist. Although she was in severe pain, her condition was “not life-threatening,” so she had no choice but to wait a year for an appointment with a specialist. After finally being assessed, Woodkey learned she had

## Shut Up, Sanchay!

BY SANCHAY JAIN, I  
SPORTS EDITOR

For the class of 2010, this year marks the end of blah, blah, blah. I am not going to bore you with fancy statements, and I am not going to use the number 375 ever again in this column. Instead, we are going to focus on change. And no, I am not talking about President Obama.

Boston Latin School has transformed dramatically in the last six years. For example, not only is there a different Head Master, but Mr. Flynn is the only Assistant Head Master who was an Assistant Head Master while we were sixties. Teachers have come (Mr. Heffron), gone (R.I.P Ms. Filipi and Mrs. Middleton), done both (Mr. Glavin and Mr. Austin-Breneman), and switched classrooms (Ms. Myette). Arsonists, vampires, and thugs from other schools have infiltrated the premises. The list goes on and on.

The objective of this article is to reminisce on certain aspects of the school that have changed. We will begin by discussing the cafeteria. Yes, I said the cafeteria. While the school continues to insist that the place where students eat lunch should

be considered “the dining hall,” it is time to call a spade a spade. Refined words should be associated with refined objects, and the food that Boston Latin School serves its students is the furthest thing from refined.

Pardon my language, but the food for the past five years has been—unpalatable. The pizza consisted of lards of grease piled onto poorly prepared bread. The subs were ice cold. Attempts at alternative meal options have been hits-and-misses at best. And for vegetarians, the only option has been the pizza (and if you missed out on that, the alternative is a miniscule cup of salad). At a cost of \$2.25, one is better off waiting after school for the food truck’s cheaper, better tasting and healthier options to arrive.

But this is just the tip of the iceberg of students' complaints about our cafeteria. Another problem is the time allotted to eating food. Twenty-two minutes might be sufficient if you bring your lunch from home, but trying to buy the food from school means waiting in ridiculously long lines. The people at the end of the line receive their slop with only five minutes left to eat, making placement in the line a cutthroat competition.

## Ask the Argo She-Wolf

Dear omnipotent She-Wolf,  
Whenever I write, I seem to use other people's words and phrases. Is there any sure way of avoiding plagiarism? Or at least a way to avoid getting caught?  
--Plagued By Plagiarism

Dear PBP,  
This is certainly a difficult issue to deal with. Original thought is so difficult nowadays, with other people's thoughts all around. But as the Wikipedia article on plagiarism says, "...it...is...bad." You have heard it straight from the most reliable source in the world of academia. FIN.

Dear omnipotent She-Wolf,  
I recently noticed a patch of green mold growing on the walls in my bedroom. My room has begun to smell terrible, and I often find myself dizzy and unable to think clearly. Any thoughts?  
--Moldy And Concerned

Dear MAC,  
The first thing you should do is CALL HAZMAT and GET OUT OF YOUR HOUSE. The real question is WHY YOU ARE WRITING TO AN ADVICE COLUMN when your life is obviously in DANGER. Has the mold affected you that much? REALLY?!  
What sort of bedroom has MOLD growing on the walls? Do you sleep in the basement? DO YOU LIVE IN A DUNGEON? ARE THERE RATS COMING OUT OF CRACKS IN YOUR WALLS?

Dear omnipotent She-Wolf,  
I really like this guy, and I know that he likes me, but he already has a girlfriend. Between myself and his girlfriend, there are so many ways she’s better than me. I mean, she wears short skirts; I wear T-shirts. She’s cheer captain, and I’m on the bleachers. I find myself dreaming about the day when he wakes up and finds that what he’s looking for has been here the whole time! What do I do, She-Wolf???  
--Somber Woman Inquiring For Thoughts

Dear SWIFT,  
Right now, he can't see that you're the one who understands him. I mean, you've been here all along. Just wait for prom and be sure to wear a beautiful white dress, especially if the girlfriend was recently caught cheating with his teammate at the football game where he scored a winning touchdown. YOU BELONG WITH HIM. I'm rootin' for yah!

Dear omnipotent She-Wolf,  
I recently stole the spotlight from a young singer at the VMA awards and then all my fans got all angry and stuff at me afterwards! I don't know what I did wrong! Please help...  
--Object of America's Fury

Dear Kanye West,  
You just suck.

Dear omnipotent She-Wolf,  
I have recently found myself enamored with a teacher at our school. Some may say that I am too young to know what true love is, but to them, I say NOBODY will know true love until they have loved Mr. Flynn! I know that he will never return my feelings, so what should I do?  
--Girl with Unrequited, Real Love

Dear GURL,  
I say go for it.

--If anybody is interested in asking for advice from the omnipotent She-Wolf, please send an e-mail to blsargo.advicecolumn@gmail.com and address it to the omnipotent She-Wolf. A fancy acronym is NOT required, but the She-Wolf approves!



FORUM

No Swoon for "Floon" Out of Afghanistan

By **ESHE SHIRLEY, III**  
STAFF WRITER

Boston does not welcome change, especially in its politics. Unfortunately, this has nothing to do with the quality of public service we get, considering we have a long history of government corruption (Sal DiMasi anyone?) and an alarming

lack of turnover in government office. Don't get me wrong, Mayor Thomas Menino is a great mayor. He has promoted youth programs and other things that I, and probably most

of the people in this school, have directly benefited from. From his vice-like handshake to his endearing lack of vocal clarity, Menino has placed himself within the good graces of many Bostonians, including myself. But honestly, the man has got his finger in every pie, and it starts to make you wonder about the integrity of his administration.

Apparently, that's all supposed to change—and more, though I'm not exactly sure what "more" is. That is probably the biggest problem with the campaigns of both Michael F. Flaherty and Sam Yoon. They are saying they're better, but no one seems to know exactly what they're going to do if they actually make it to the office. However, about half the voting community seems to think they know, because they voted to end the reign of our fearless mumbler.

In this spirit, after his close loss, Yoon has joined Flaherty on the mayoral ticket. When I first heard this from Mr. Bernazzani, I shared his reaction—is this even legal? Whoever heard of a deputy mayor anyway? If anyone can tell me who the last "deputy mayor" of Boston was, I

swear I will pay you twenty dollars I don't even have. Seriously, I think Yoon got a little "creative" with that one. And why would Yoon jump on the Flaherty bandwagon? If they lose, Yoon has a very high probability of slipping into obscurity. In three years people will say: "Remember when Flaherty and that other guy tried to beat Menino? What was his name?" That

is the worst thing that could happen to a politician, no one knowing who he or she is anymore. And even if they do win, Yoon may still fade out of the picture, considering no one cares about a position that does not exist. (I doubt Flaherty will help him out on that one.)

The minute Team Flaherty and Team Yoon became Team "Floon," Menino cried "two-on-one." Unfortunately, that argument didn't really work, since Yoon isn't actually running for mayor. On that same note, all the mayoral and city council hopefuls had a talent show to lighten the mood of campaign season. Because he was a loser, Yoon was not allowed to partake in the performance. Unfortunately, this conflicted with Team Floon's game plan: they were going to sing a duet together (cute!). So, for the sake of team unity, Flaherty didn't show up to the event, leaving Menino to rock the show with his awesome lyrics: "Two against one / that doesn't seem fair / we all know I am a better mayor," Yes, I'm pretty sure he wrote that himself.

The reality is: none of these guys are that different from one another. They all support police details, youth programs, jobs to lower youth crime, and a "greener Boston." Essentially, Team Floon is running because they want to depose Menino. And Menino is running because, "I like my job."



FLAHERTY + YOON = FLOON

## Where the B-sies at?

By **JAKE ZHANG, IV**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Welcome to another exciting school year.

The graduating class of 2013 deserves a special welcome, specifically we B-sies, who have just begun our endeavors at Boston Latin School. This remarkable population, along with past B-sie classes, has endured challenges a former sixie can only imagine. The typical B-sie competes against roughly two thousand other students from across the state and beyond in order to get into BLS. They take the ISEE, or Independent School Entrance Examination, and only five percent get in (a staggeringly low amount even when compared with prestigious Ivy League colleges). The fact that this year's B-sie class contains only 30 students (excluding the 18 who gave up the opportunity for whatever reason) compared to nearly 100 last year displays how vulnerable the B-sie class is to prevalent budget cuts. Last year, there were two B-sie homerooms, but now there is only one. Perhaps if the state had allotted more funds to BLS earlier in the summer, the student who ranked 49th on the ISEE would probably have been in BLS reading this article right now.

As a minority of the large student body, B-sies face certain obstacles. For instance, BLSA.org did not formally recognize the existence of B-sies until about

last Wednesday, when they finally entered the records for each of the new students. Compared to other students of Class IV, who have already taken the language for two years, Latin is somewhat of a sore subject. The same difficulty applies to Algebra, since many middle schools teach at the pre-algebra level. On a more personal level, the fact that we may not know anyone in the entire school except for other B-sies can be discouraging, especially when trying to find a teacher interested in restarting the fencing club. Students also love to see new faces as potential victims of practical jokes ("Did you know Youth-CAN is converting the fourth floor swimming pool into a jacuzzi?"). In addition, getting into competitive programs such as Public Declamation, Mock Trial, and Theater can be somewhat of a nuisance since we don't have previous experience.

There are, however, certain positive aspects of being a B-sie. Getting to class on time can be annoying when one is trying to navigate through the maze of hallways. Nevertheless, it is surprisingly easy to persuade the Floor Master into excusing you from the consequences of tardiness with the words, "But I'm a B-sie!" Besides, how can we forget that B-sies only need to spend four years at BLS in order to graduate? As Mr. Watson once said, "Why spend six years in BLS when you can get away with four years and still get the same diploma?"

By **NISAT CHOWDHURY, III**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Eight years ago, former President George W. Bush declared war on Afghanistan in response to the September 11th attacks. One month later, he confirmed that Osama bin Laden, a native of Saudi Arabia taking refuge in Afghanistan, was the mastermind of the terrorist attack. As bin Laden hid out in Afghan caves, Bush gave the Afghan government a list of demands, including the turnover of bin Laden and Al Qaeda members. When they failed to cooperate, he initiated a bombing campaign against them.

The main targets of the bombing campaign were Al Qaeda and Taliban training camps, military grounds and Taliban communication centers. By late 2001, the United States and its allies had overthrown the Taliban. The predominantly Arab Al Qaeda forces were bombed and driven over the border into Pakistan.

code by turning in Osama bin Laden, the U.S. should have taken more steps to cooperate with Afghanistan, such as entitling him to a fair trial. There is also doubt as to whether he even had anything to do with the September 11th attacks. The FBI has admitted publicly that there is no actual evidence connecting him to 9/11, and the basis of the link between him and the attacks comes from Detainee Interrogation Reports. These reports are obtained from detained "terrorists" using waterboarding methods (otherwise known as torture), and thus this information cannot be deemed true because of the desperate methods used to obtain it. Furthermore, the people who commissioned these reports admit they never met the detainees, nor were they allowed to submit questions to the detainees or question the intelligence agents who allegedly interrogated them. Thus, the details that form the basis of the invasion of Afghanistan are



AMERICAN SOLDIER STUCK IN MOUNTAINOUS QUAGMIRE

The primary goal of destroying Al Qaeda, however, remained unexecuted.

Even now, eight years after the start of the war, tensions continue to exist, as the Taliban have resurged. President Obama has decided to send more troops into Afghanistan, despite the fact that other insurgencies have demonstrated that more troops inevitably result in the death of many more civilians. In my opinion, the war should not have been started. So far, the total cost of the war in Afghanistan is \$178 billion. The reason we invaded—defeating Al Qaeda—remains far from finished, and the U.S. is now stuck with the responsibility of rebuilding Afghanistan and supporting its corrupt and incompetent government.

Worst of all, it doesn't look like it's going to end anytime soon. The increase in troops seems to indicate that we have no immediate intention of withdrawing. The terrain is difficult to navigate, which means that members of the Taliban and Al Qaeda have the upper hand in any sort of guerilla warfare that might occur. Our enemies hide out in the mountains of Afghanistan and Pakistan, which has resulted in our complete inability to find Osama bin Laden and his allies. Because of these difficulties, it doesn't seem likely that we'll be able to justify any of our reasons for starting the war.

There's also the matter of the execution of the war. Once Afghanistan refused to go against their hospitality

based on the alleged hearsay of tortured detainees—not a sound basis for a major military conflict.

Though it is understandable that the U.S. military would like to finish what they started by remaining in Afghanistan, I think the best course of action would be to allow Afghanistan to be independent for a short period of time so that we are able to assess the level of U.S. intervention necessary to protect the Afghan people from the resurgence of a Taliban-based government. It would undoubtedly be preferable to withdraw gradually from Afghanistan, eventually allowing it to become a stable democracy with minimal aid from the U.S. government, rather than throw away money and young American soldiers in a futile quest for ill-defined victory. This would benefit both the U.S. soldiers and Afghan civilians in the long run.

Re-election for the Afghan president is rescheduled for November 2009 because the previous election was sabotaged. I think in addition to this election, there should be a referendum where the Afghans are able to freely express their opinions on how their country should be rebuilt and we should take the results of this referendum into account in the future. In general, we need to consider the opinions of the Afghan people in the decisions that we make about this war; every action that we take affects the Afghan people more than we can imagine.



FORUM

Peace Prize Discord

Should Obama have Won the Nobel Prize?



NHU LE, IV  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

President Barack Obama was recently awarded the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize. The Norwegian Nobel Committee, during the announcement, cited the President’s push for international diplomacy and nuclear disarmament as proof of his commitment to peace.

Nonetheless, the decision has been met with criticism from both American journalists and international commentators alike. Many critics have called the award premature, citing Obama’s short term in office (less than a year) and questioning the effectiveness of his initiatives. For example, the nuclear weapon programs of foreign countries remain a problem that Obama yet to fix, as are the statuses of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. There is no doubt, however, that this award was just and timely.

Many people seem to confuse the purpose of the Nobel Peace Prize. Though it does indeed recognize achievement, it primarily recognizes effort. Many recipients of the award, such as Aung San Suu Kyi, did not fully succeed in their campaigns for peace. Kyi, the laureate of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize, was rightfully recognized for her efforts in fighting for democracy in Burma, but her efforts were never fully realized. To this day, Burma is still under a military regime.

In Obama’s case, though, it is true that he has only been in office for ten months, and his efforts are still at an early stage. He has, without a doubt, worked to secure peace with hostile countries through diplomacy. Despite this commitment, however, his efforts may never bear fruit—a point which has been recognized by both Obama and the Nobel Committee in their messages to the press. The Nobel Peace Prize merely serves as recognition of Obama’s causes, and as a pledge of support from the international community. No one can deny that Obama still has a long way to go; yet taking into consideration the purpose of this award, Obama’s acceptance of it is not at all premature.

Also, regardless of one’s view of Obama’s merit, the award is merited. The fact of the matter is that the Nobel Peace Prize has been beneficial to Obama’s image, and, in turn, to America’s. Even in regular circumstances, having a citizen receive such a prestigious award would be an honor to any country. It is, however, especially significant for the United States at this time. The country has received a slew of negative press lately, with reporters commenting on questionable choices such as the Iraq war, the use of torture, the financial meltdown and the subsequent government bailout... the list goes on. All of this press has resulted in America’s tanking international popularity.

This award is not just a nod of approval from the Nobel Committee for Obama’s work toward peace. It sends a clear message to the international community that the U.S. is again on the right track. In fact, the decision has overall been well-received internationally, despite a great deal of negative reception in the U.S. The 2009 Nobel Peace Prize does not simply belong to Obama. It belongs to America. As the President stated in his acceptance speech of the award, “I do not view it as a recognition of my own achievements, but rather as an affirmation of American leadership on behalf of aspirations held by people in all nations.”

We, as a country, should appreciate the humility of a president who realizes that the award extends farther than himself, and we should acknowledge the effects of his world popularity in America. Above all, we, as the people represented by the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize recipient, should be proud.

BY YAXI WANG, I  
STAFF WRITER

Alfred Nobel, a Swedish industrialist, established the Nobel Peace Prize in 1895, bequeathing the award to those who “during the preceding year [...] shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between nations.” Whether it is an ordinary citizen fighting for democracy or a president ending a war, each laureate of the Nobel Prize has made some kind of significant contribution toward peace efforts—that is, until this year. A couple of weeks ago, the Norwegian Nobel Committee gave the award to President Obama for doing pretty much nothing. He certainly does not fit the mold that Nobel established in his prize will.

Don’t get me wrong, I have nothing against President Obama. I think he’s great—awesome, in fact. It is just that I have always thought of the Nobel Prize as a great honor awarded to people who have made some major impact in the world. The committee explains that one of the main reasons why they presented the prize to Mr. Obama is for his “vision of and work for a world without nuclear weapons.” But to date, his visions and work have not actually resulted in much. Iran’s nuclear threat is still not eradicated and God knows that the countries that already have nuclear weapons will never give them up. It just seems kind of strange that Obama is being rewarded for his visions rather than any concrete actions. Like many others, I believe that Mr. Obama has been given the award too prematurely. Wait until his efforts actually end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Wait until he convinces Iran to end its efforts in building nuclear weapons. Wait until he leads the world to lower its carbon emissions. Only then will there be no controversy over Obama’s claim to the prize.

Let’s be honest, one of the major reasons why the Nobel Committee awarded the Prize to Obama is because they hate George W. Bush. They are using the award to blatantly display their political leanings. It’s true that the Nobel Prize has been used politically before, but this time, it seems a little inappropriate.

Honestly, the prize this year has not done much good for anyone. It has helped to feed the sentiment that Obama has no substance and led many to question the legitimacy of the Nobel Committee (seriously, what gives five old Norwegians the moral authority to decide who has made the biggest impact in peace efforts anyway?).

Maybe I am completely misjudging the Committee’s intentions. Maybe the list of nominees this year sucked so much that Obama was the only plausible choice. I am, however, an idealist. I would like to think that the Prize should be awarded to someone who actually needs the recognition. For the most part, I think awarding presidents is a waste of a valuable chance at publicity. There are a large number of people who are fighting for social justice and peace and all they need is a little more money or a little more publicity to help them accomplish their goals. These are the deserving people who actually need the Nobel Award and its prize money. I hate to suggest that the Nobel Peace Prize is nothing more than a publicity tool, but publicity can really make the difference.

With all this said, I admit that Obama’s acceptance of the award is not completely without benefit. I trust Obama when he says that the award will become his reminder of our expectations for him and his responsibilities to us. Hopefully, Obama’s initiatives toward world peace will accelerate because of the pressures of his doubters. The award may have been presented prematurely but we will have to make the best out of it. We can always hope that next year’s winner will actually deserve (and need) the award.

Forum

Question

What's your opinion on Obama's Peace Prize?



I don't think that Obama should have won the award, especially since it is normally an award given to figures like Nelson Mandela.

-- Catarina Gonçalves, Class I



Yes I believe Obama deserved the award because of his efforts to fix American relations with other countries.

-- Tosin Ajewole, Class II



I don't think he deserved it because he did nothing. The country is still in the same state it was before he became president. Hes no Nelson Mandela who actually made a difference.

-- Aderonke Odewale, Class III



Obama definitely should have won the Nobel peace prize, because he rocks.

-- Carol Bowe, Class IV



Yes, Obama should have won because he is trying to stop the Iraq war.

-- Slater Ward, Class V



Obama did not deserve it because he only has made speeches and not much else.

-- Kevin Su, Class VI



# FORUM

## No Respect for Mix-It-Up Day

BY ROBERT FITZPATRICK, III  
STAFF WRITER

Like most American high schools, bullying remains a custom practiced at Boston Latin School. To rain on our little parade, the R.E.S.P.E.C.T. Initiative is cracking down on the name-calling banditos. Now, I'm condoning bullying, but—it's sort of like candy corn. No matter how much we hate it, it just won't go away. But really? Is there really enough bullying at BLS that we need to tarnish Aretha Franklin's crowning jewel? Apparently so. That's why we're coalescing all different backgrounds of cool into a melting pot of love on November 10.

The idea is that we, in an effort to become a Boston Latin utopian society, must represent every color under the visible spectrum of light—yes, all five of them. For one week, we will all come to school dressed coordinated colors, so that everyone will be equal, and no one will be wearing a cooler color than anyone else. This idea is so original, except for the fact that uniforms are an actual institution at most high schools for this very reason. But wait a second. It gets better.

On November 10, every student will receive a colored bracelet. This bracelet will determine who the students will have the utmost pleasure of sitting with at lunch. The purpose of this activity is to

break down borders and dismantle cliques and all that they stand for! This is a great idea, really. But will it work? Will separating the dining hall into groups of almost 200 students really accomplish anything? In 22 minutes? It doesn't seem possible. Well, buckle up! You'll soon be submerged in a sea of strangers eyeing your Fritos like the seagulls at Revere Beach.

Just so this doesn't seem like I am abusing my privileges as a writer for the *Argo* to spew my biased opinion, I scoured the school in search of young, hip opinions—as Martha Stewart would say—and the results may be disappointing for the R.E.S.P.E.C.T. squad.

An unannounced survey conducted on a certain day with some respectable students who were in the BLS hallways from 4:00-5:00PM bear an almost unani-

mous result. About 80% of the students said that Mix-It-Up Day was pretty low on the list of things that will actually

general consensus is one of skepticism. People don't believe it's will work at all. Maya Allegro (III) asked me, "Won't people just find friends in their lunch who have the same color?" Delia Ridgecreamer (III) agreed, bluntly stating, "Nobody is going to do that."

Not everyone, however, thinks that this event is going to crash and burn. The headmistress is very excited about it. When asked for her opinion on the matter, she said that she thought it was a "great idea!" Teachers, too, seem to have a lot of optimism when it comes to Mix-It-Up Day. Ms. Ledang said, "I'm looking forward to it! It'll be nice." President of the senior class, Tadesh Inagaki, gives it a big two-thumbs-up!

Even though we'll have to endure a week where everyone looks like they're Power Rangers-wannabes, it's actually a solid idea because many might find out that they are more compatible with people who aren't even in their clique but would never know it if they didn't have this chance to "mix it up." The whole thing is like a love connection or speed dating. It has potential to be a really fun time! But, here my advice: Bring a good lunch. Just in case it's awkward.



FIND OUT WHAT IT MEANS TO ARETHA

succeed, just above inventing healthy cinn-a-bons.

As one female student put it, "I'm generally opposed to forced cohesiveness." Other students had specific complaints about the setup. Another female student speculated that there will be "too many people per color, so it's not even one-on-one. It's like Sitting-in-a-Crowd-of-Strangers-for-Lunch Day." The

## Money Makes the World Go Wrong

BY WILLIAM POFF-WEBSTER, I  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At times it seems like our country's problems build up faster than we can solve them. Healthcare, the economy, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, global warming, our dependence on Middle Eastern oil, education, the achievement gap, and so on—the litany of issues is enough to depress the most optimistic American. It's as if each US citizen were being weighed down by problems inherited from generation to generation, constantly shelved away to be solved by posterity. We are quite literally living on borrowed time—the United States national debt is 13 trillion dollars. That's \$45,000 per person!

Typically, I'd offer a ray of hope to an audience that shouldn't shamble around depressed (operating, of course, under the assumption that my articles dictate your moods). Unfortunately, I must deluge you with more bad news.

Many of us think that the worst problems in the world can be solved by our advanced political system, devised by a group of genius founding fathers, that has rapidly evolved into a form of government exceeding even their wildest ideals. This government should be able to leap healthcare crises in a single bound, solve global warming before lunch, and snack on Al Qaeda. And yet, we are struggling to pass just one piece of legislation on healthcare in the coming months. What about the ever-increasing threat of global warming, to give one of a half dozen extremely pressing examples? The government of the Maldives, a small and low-lying Indian Ocean island country, recently held a cabinet meeting underwater, replete with scuba gear and underwater news cameras, to draw attention to the global warming crisis. Their country will literally be underwater if we don't take action soon; and yet the political consensus in Washington is that we can't possibly focus on more than one thing at a time. Even healthcare reform will take months more than the months it's already taken. How

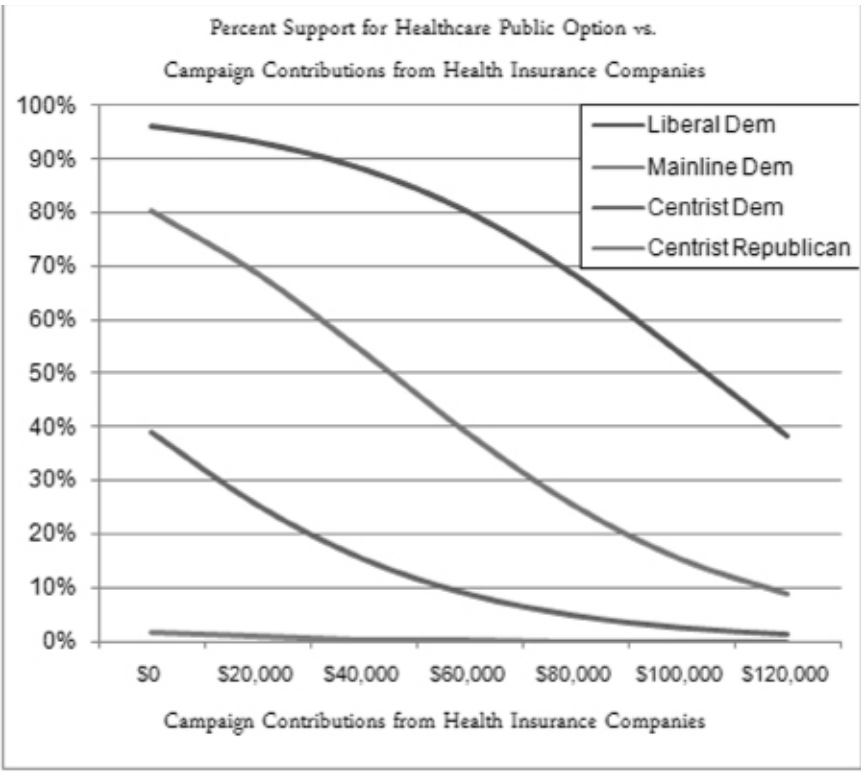
many degrees will the world temperature rise before we take action? How many ecologically vital animals will become extinct? How many refugees will lose their homes? Even for those who refuse to care about an international perspective, we don't have to look any further than New Orleans' lower 9th ward.

of their time fundraising when they could be reading the laws they pass. If politicians want to do anything more than tread water in their current positions, the price tag is even steeper. According to the Washington Post, the chairman of the Federal Election Commission, Michael Toner, estimated that it would cost

is necessary. We have nothing less than a legalized system of bribery providing the vast sums required to run for and keep public office. While every campaign touts their \$5, \$10, and \$25 donations from ordinary citizens scraping by and giving what they can, the campaign powerhouses are the big corporations, lobbyists, political action committees, and the very wealthy who donate up to the legal maximum. When these interests are indirectly paying our political leaders' paychecks, can we really expect those leaders to listen to John Q. Public? They may take our calls, listen to pleas, and act when enough outrage is stirred up—but in our modern government, at least some of the time, money talks louder than citizens.

I'm a bit surprised at myself for writing all of this. I'm a big fan of politics and even of many politicians—I think the general pejorative sense that politicians have gained is often undeserved and definitely bad for our country. I've met some of these people, even worked with them to the degree where if they were hiding a deep-seated contempt for the interests of the people, it was pretty well-hidden. That's how I've come to this determination. The culture of legalized bribery is the real overarching problem in our politics. Fix that problem, and you fix everything. Is it any surprise, considering the number of legislators beholden to insurance company campaign donations, that we are unable to pass even a watered-down healthcare bill that doesn't do anything?

Right now, "you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours" bribes define modern politics. A publicly funded system of paying for political campaigns would replace these kickbacks. None of our attempts at removing corruption have ever fully worked. Opponents of reform find ways to get around this thin legislation—when lawmakers banned lobbyist-provided lunches, but allowed snacks, lobbyists began offering vast buffets of finger food. We need a paradigm shift in the way we view our government and the way it views us. Let's take money out of the equation.



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Clearly, something's wrong in the United States. I know we're always told to shy away from simple solutions to complex problems, but I've been watching these sorts of things for a while, and I'm ready to offer a pronouncement. When you get down to it, this issue is beyond the rationalizations, the debates, the half-truths, the quarter-truths, the one-sixty-fourth truths (the Republicans' assertion that an extra government choice in healthcare would somehow raise insurance costs comes to mind). It's about money.

Simply put, people are willing to do a lot to keep their jobs. And in politics, doing that requires a lot of money. U.S. congressmen have to spend a vast amount

\$100 million to even be "considered a serious candidate" for the 2008 Presidential election.

How about this: institute a \$25 limit on contributions to any political candidate in any campaign, and have our government give a certain amount to every candidate for the rest of the costs of running a campaign. Who wouldn't be willing to give a few million (or, in the case of a Presidential race, a few hundred million) dollars per candidate in exchange for getting our country back and actually being able to do things? We would save money even in the short run. Sounds like a bargain.

This bargain is not only practical, it



## Spotlight Tori Coyne



By **BARBARA CARVALHO, II**  
& **ANNA FRAPPAOLO, I**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Barbara: Although Anna and I are both friends with Tori now, we have slightly different first memories of her. My first encounter with Tori was in 8th grade. She was only a freshman at the time, helping out with the Connections’ Show. To her, I was just another 8th grader. But to me, she was not just another upperclassman—she was an extremely frightening upperclassman. The confident way she pranced around the Black Box with a seemingly “I hate the world” attitude sent shivers quivering down my underclassman spine. But as I got to know Tori better by participating in other theatre productions, I learned that she actually did not hate the world, and that I had absolutely no reason to fear her.

Anna: My first experience with Tori was slightly different. I first met Tori in kindergarten at Mount Alvernia Academy. At first, I only knew her as the niece of our school lunch lady, but in fourth grade, we both joined Art Club and quickly became friends (even though I would not let you into the elite Monkey Girl Club, sorry about that). Our friendship, like Barbara’s, was strengthened a great deal at Boston Latin School by our shared love of theater.

Evident to everyone, Tori is a great actress. She can play anything from a mime (and still be funny without words), to an Australian dog trainer—she does it all. If you have not seen her in a show, or if you have never seen a BLS Theatre production in general, we would suggest doing so; it is quite an experience. But not only is Tori a chameleon when it comes to her roles, she is also amazing behind the scenes. Tori’s artistic flair with a makeup brush helped turn the cast of *Tilt Angel* into black and gold faced creatures of the underworld; in *Anybody for Tea* (in which she also played a lead role), her skills transformed a group of high school girls into decrepit, older women. Currently, she is directing the latest play, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, which guarantees that it will become a great success.

But theater is not the only place where Tori makes a difference. She is co-president of the Italian Club (il co-capo, as she likes to call it), a dedicated member of the R.E.S.P.E.C.T. Initiative, and recently served as a campaign manager for Olivia Collins, who successfully ran for Vice President of the Senior Class.

Anyone who knows Tori knows that there is more to her than her impact on the school. Neither of us can recall a conversation with Tori that did not begin and end with laughter; everything she says is hilarious. Her on-point and impeccably timed sense of humor is probably one of the reasons why Tori has so many friends from different social spheres, and is definitely a reason she is friends with us. She is one of those girls that you never see alone. She always has someone by her side, and more often than not, they are laughing at something she said.

Both of us can agree that next year, when Tori is off to college, she will be greatly missed. Her presence in theater, and the school, cannot be replaced.

# A&E Kanye's "Beautiful Nightmare"

By **CAITLIN WALSH, II**  
STAFF WRITER

I don’t know about you, but I wasn’t that surprised to hear about Kanye West’s outburst at the recent MTV Video Music Awards (VMAs). Really, how many people can say that they were shocked to hear what had happened? Kanye West opened his fat mouth and spouted off whatever he felt like saying, no matter how rude it was. No surprise there. The man has a horrible record of not thinking before he speaks—or maybe it would be better to say that he just doesn’t care what he says. Either way, I think it would be safe to say that all of us wanted to give Taylor Swift a hug when we saw her face drop as West stole her spotlight.

Let’s rewind to the night of the event for those of us who either forgot, or didn’t hear about it at all, as improbable as that may seem. On September 13, 2009, musicians and entertainers gathered at Radio City Music Hall in New York City to participate in the 2009 MTV VMAs. They waited, along with nine million television viewers, to determine who was this year’s best of the best and see it all go down. Not long into the show, it came time to present the nominees for Best

Female Video Award: Beyoncé, Taylor Swift, Lady Gaga, Pink, Kelly Clarkson and Katy Perry. The winner? Taylor Swift, of course, for her hit song “You Belong With Me.”

Swift, in a glimmering, silver dress, walked up to the stage with a giddy and gracious smile. She gleefully but modestly accepted her award and took the micro-

Classy, Kanye. Very classy.

As a typical sixteen-year-old girl, I can’t deny that I’m constantly on Facebook, and it was at that moment that status updates exploded onto my homepage. It was, admittedly, a little annoying to have to read how much every person I know hates Kanye, but I can’t say I blame them. Really, do celebrities not believe in class anymore these days? Beyoncé’s surprised reaction showed exactly how embarrassed she was at her supposed defender. And having more professionalism than West, she gracefully gave up her winning moment later on to let Swift come up on stage and finish her speech.

West was removed for the remainder of the show, but the damage had already been done. It’s clear that West lacks manners and class. It’s clear that the man has a track record for messing up when it comes to public speaking. The only good that comes from his antics is a boost in sales for gossip magazines like *People* and *OK!* and extended support for those he attacks—it’s safe to say Swift gained a fan or two that night.

In the meantime, all we can do is shake our heads, chuckle a little or a lot, and hope that some doctor, somewhere, will prescribe him a serious dose of chill pills. Maybe he can even recommend Michael Jackson’s “Man in the Mirror” as a source of therapy. The guy clearly needs some sort of hint.



"OH, KANYE!"

phone to thank whomever she pleased—her fans and mainly her family, we expect. Of course, we can only expect because, suddenly, in the midst of it all, West took the stage. In the shocking seconds that followed, he ripped the microphone from Swift’s hand and began a tirade that flew from his lips like vomit:

“Yo Tay, I’m really happy for you and I’mma let you finish, but Beyoncé had one of the best videos of all time. One of the best videos of all time.”

## When the Paranormal Turns Real

By **HELEN ZHAO, II**  
ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

I walk into the movie theatre with my friend and find a seat at the very back, hoping to stay as far away as possible from the horror that will shortly appear before my eyes. I settle down and put on my earbuds, with my iPod set on “Don’t Stop Believin’” at the highest volume. If the movie gets too scary, I can simply close my eyes and blast my music—no problem. Sinking back into my chair, I turn my sweatshirt backwards, with the hood in the perfect position— if I move my head slightly, it will totally obscure my view of the screen, and I won’t have to see anything too freaky. All set.

The movie I’m about to watch is called *Paranormal Activity* and it has dominated my Facebook newsfeed for days. Anyone stealthy enough to sneak into the R-rated movie has walked out of the theatres not only totally spooked out, but also amazed at the film’s verisimilitude.

I am quite the scaredy-cat: I’ve only watched three “scary” movies in my life, and one of them was *I Am Legend*, which is not even considered a horror movie. I sleep with a nightlight and can’t even handle the creepiness of *Ripley’s Believe*

*it or Not*. I didn’t know what I was doing in that movie theatre that afternoon, but sitting through the previews, I was sure I was going to run out of the theatre crying and have nightmares for years to come. This, however, was not the case.



The movie was suspenseful and my heart jumped several times, but I really wasn’t that terrified. There were several scenes where doors would open and close by themselves and household objects were mysteriously rearranged— all acts of the

“demon”. This was freaky to me because sometimes at home, the door really does close by itself and I do often find objects reorganized in my room. I, however, always assumed that the door slamming was due to a gust of wind and my stapler was moved to the other side of the desk just because my mom had decided to clean my room for me. I never assumed a demon was present.

These assumptions changed. Days after watching the movie and even now, I seem to sense demons in my house. One morning, I was putting on my shoes in complete silence when my mom suddenly opened the door— I gasped and jumped up out of fear that the possessed character Katie from *Paranormal Activity* had come to haunt me. Every night while showering, I prefer to suffer the feeling of shampoo in my eyes to closing them and envisioning Katie’s freaky demon face. It takes me an hour to fall asleep at night because I am so scared that a demon will come through my room and drag me off my bed.

Considering the fact that this movie was made on a budget of \$11,000 and shot in just one week, it is quite the phenomenon. Many have run out of the theatres because they can’t handle it: Steven Spielberg, who readapted the film, had to stop watching the first time because he was so scared. The real splendor of *Paranormal Activity* is the after effect and just how real the happenings of the movie seem to be. My final word of advice for those brave enough to enter is whatever you do, do NOT watch the final twenty seconds of the movie because the image will haunt you and stay with you for weeks to come.



# A & E

## Season 6 Knows It Can Dance

By **LINDA DENG, II**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

So You Think You Can Dance (SYTYCD), now in its sixth season on Fox, is a highly competitive dance competition that challenges all dancers to master a variety of styles. The program also exposes the world of dance to the general public and was one of the first to do so in a reality show context—yes, even before America’s Best Dance Crew.

With no previous place on television for dancers or choreographers, SYTYCD is a program that has a coveted place for both. In the past, there have been limited opportunities for success in the dance world, but SYTYCD

has broken those barriers. Thousands of contestants go through a rigorous auditioning process in order to make the Top 20, a select group of dancers who get the chance to earn the votes of viewers nationwide. Some dancers have returned as choreographers, including Black McGrath, Travis Wall, and Dmitry Chaplin. Some have even continued their journey and made it to the big screens, starring in films like Step Up and Fame. Others have gone on to different dance programs as well: Ryan Conferido, Hokuto Konishi, and Dominic Sandoval continued their dance careers as well-known members of Quest Crew, the America’s Best Dance Crew Champions of season three!

With each season, finalists bring different personalities and talents to the show, qualities which make us both laugh and become enraptured. The contestants of season five, however, lost momentum. Without a doubt, I can say that the finalists were very talented, but their personalities were bland. I missed Dominic’s random outbursts and Mark’s odd pinkies, moments that made me genuinely like the contestants. The contestants of season five, however, just did not seem to enjoy their time as much as the previous finalists did. While they seemed like friendly coworkers, the previous finalists seemed more like a close family. To make things worse, there was a surprising lack of variety; out of the Top

20, twelve of them were contemporary dancers! Contemporary is a beautiful style, but honestly, I was bored of watching so many contemporary solos.

Though it has just started, season six is amazing so far. It seems as if season five was simply a transition between season four and six. There has been a plethora of talent found in cities such as Los Angeles, New Orleans, and even Boston. With three tap dancers, a married ballroom couple, and a krumper in the Top 20, I can safely say that season six is going to be the most interesting one yet. Remember to watch the live shows of SYTYCD, and vote for your favorite contestant on Fox at 8pm every Wednesday. I know I will.

## Move Over, Twilight!

By **EHIS OSIFO, IV**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

From sparkling, to ring-wearing, to throat-ripping, vampires are taking over the media in television, books and even on the big screen. Girls, boys, and middle-aged women are all immersed in this vampire frenzy, which I believe is just plain sad. Obsessing about the vampire fad is the latest hype. Remember when the Boy Who Lived dominated our senses just a few years ago?

This vampire obsession originated with the train wreck, Twilight. The book was published in 2005, during the wizarding era, but did not really become popular until 2008. The book’s success initiated the dawn of the vampire era. To be honest, as an older and wiser individual who read the book without

is just disturbing. Unfortunately, all age groups are susceptible to drooling over a fictional Adonis.

The vampire craze does not stop with Twilight. Shows, movies and books about vampires start to appear, such as The House of Night series by P.C. and Kristen Cast, and the Blue Bloods series by Melissa De La Cruz. Another notable masterpiece is the Vampire Diaries by L.J. Smith, a rather awesome television show on the CW on Thursday nights that surpasses Twilight any day. Then, there is the True Blood television series on HBO, which has an interesting premise about the interactions of humans and vampires in a society where the existence of vampires is acknowledged. Though the plots of these novels vary, many people compare anything vampire-related to Twilight. For example, the novel Vampire



THE ‘NEWEST’ IDEA ON TELEVISION

picturing Edward Cullen topless, I do not understand the craze for the novel. The book has a good plot, but the writing is mediocre. I am not trying to offend those who regard Twilight as serious literature, but come on! I understand that young teenage girls are easily tempted by impossibly gorgeous characters and hopelessly forbidden romance—I used to be one of them. What I do not understand is why there are some middle-aged mothers obsessed with Twilight. The image of women staring at a half-naked Cullen

Diaries was written in 1991, long before Stephenie Meyer even “dreamt” about Twilight. Yet, people are still blatantly comparing Vampire Dairies to Twilight, treating the book as another effort to cash in on the vampire fad. As teenage girls and middle-aged moms salivate at the sight of the pale-faced Edward Cullen, I think that Bram Stoker, the author of Dracula, is rolling over in his grave, knowing that his creation of a fearsome, blood-drinking monster is turning into a sparkling, human-loving superhero.

By **PATRICIA ANN WISE, IV**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the Maurice Sendak’s children’s book, Where the Wild Things Are (1963), the story is purely narration. Max, a young boy who annoyed his mother by running around the house, is sent to bed without dinner. Within the next few scenes, however, the readers find themselves in Max’s imagination as he arrives at the Land of the Wild Things and becomes king. Eventually, like all little children, Max gets bored, comes home to a hot dinner, and lives happily ever after.

The nine-sentence children’s book would have made a short movie, had the director/writer Spike Jonze not added extraneous plot twists, which were never tied up at the end of the film. Tossing in the struggle of a single mother (Catherine Keener) and an “out of control” child, Max (Max Records), Jonze sets up a relatable world any person can immerse themselves in—she works all the time, has a new boyfriend, and does not have time to take care of Max. As youngsters, how many times have we all wondered if our parents cared enough?

That would invoke some sympathy from the audience, if Max was not a bratty, over-indulged child. He never truly faces his problems, which include his fear of including new people, either with the Wild Things or at home; therefore, the moral of the story is elusive. The fact of the matter is, there is no moral. None of the supporting characters try to drive home a single principle; the Wild Things seemed like mini-Maxes themselves, completely immature and gullible. Even the mother seems quite fine with her son running away, and even rewards him with a slice of chocolate cake for dinner.

A storyline similar to Alice in Wonderland failed to either captivate or leave the viewer with anything, other than a lighter wallet. It is marred by the repetitiveness of Max’s adventures, which

brought to mind my mother’s favorite saying, “laughter brings tears.” Bored about an hour in, the only thing that kept the audience awake was the random, high pitched indie music, sporadically playing



THE WILD THINGS SHOULD HAVE STAYED HIDDEN

throughout.

But Jonze did try to bring some sort of depth through Max’s rambling teacher, played by Steve Mouzakis. The science teacher manages to give a sense of impending doom by promising his class of the sun’s explosion, thus ending the world. This, of course, caused the little boy behind me to cry to his mother that they “can’t let the sun explode,” a more moving reaction than anything Records could have portrayed.

Redemption came only in the Wild Things, which looked as if they came straight from the book’s illustrations. The animatronics looked completely unreal and awkward in the forest setting, yet endearing, making up for Max’s abysmal lack of emotion. If Jonze’s aim was to leave the audience scratching their heads, then he definitely succeeded. Like the book, the movie had a certain pointlessness to it, mainly because only one of the problems was truly resolved. Overall, Where the Wild Things Are was definitely lacking. What is my suggestion? Reread the book: it will save you nine dollars and a headache.



# A & E Singing Glee’s Praises

By NICOLE FINN, I  
STAFF WRITER

FOX’s hit show *Glee* first premiered back in May and upon first look, staff writer Amber Cranston (’09) remarked, “it is not bad, it is just... not original.” While *Glee* may at first resemble *High School Musical*, make no mistake: *Glee* is by no means an unoriginal Disney production. After only seven episodes, it falls more under the category of a soap opera than a family show. There are a myriad of plot elements that would define *Glee* as a soap opera: love triangles, affairs, two huge lies about pregnancies (one regards paternity, the other conceals the pregnancy itself), conspiracies, a drug scandal, and, of course, the stereotypical high school underdog saga. Yes, while there are certainly some clichés present, the scripts are infused with so much creativity that the result is an exciting and entertaining show.

It is not really clear who the main character is, whether it is the Spanish teacher Will Schuster (Matthew Morrison), a high school singing star who wants to return the *Glee* club to its former glory, or *Glee* club’s male and female leads, Finn (Cory Monteith) and Rachel (Lea Michele). Regardless of the characters, however, the main focus is the music. *Glee*’s first cover of “Don’t Stop Believin’”

reached the iTunes Top 100 list a day after the premiere and was quickly followed by more of its chart-topping tunes. Though young, Michele is an exceptional singer. Her facial expressions may be over the top but her talent is undeniably exceptional. One of my favorite performances was the one in which the football team broke out into an impressive performance

tempted to justify herself by saying, “Oh, it’s okay. They’re over-the-counter!” However, Sue Sylvester (Jane Lynch), Cheerio cheerleading coach and arch-enemy of the *Glee* club, delivers some of the show’s best jokes. Her insults are both abrasive and hilarious. In her own words, Sue “empower[s] [her] Cheerios to live in fear by creating an environment of ir-



WHAT GLEEKES...

of Beyoncé’s “Single Ladies.” With the home team down by a few points and looking for the touchdown to win, the dance number was intended to loosen up the players and throw off the opposing team, a maneuver that succeeded. After a prolonged losing streak, the home team ended up finally winning a game. In addition to the both the soap opera and musical categories that *Glee* falls under, it is important to remember that it is also a comedy. In one episode, Will’s wife Terri (Jessalyn Gilsig) filled in as the school nurse and proceeded to “help” the students by encouraging them to pop decongestants. When confronted, she at-

spreads messages such as, “Caning works! And I think it’s about time we did a little more of it right here... yes, we cane!” *Glee* is a wonderful show with a talented cast, and, although a few of the jokes sometimes border on the offensive, the scripts are beautifully written and exceptionally creative. As Rachel states, “We’re gonna win because we’re different. That’s what makes us special.” Overall, *Glee* is quite a refreshing breath of air among the heavy dramas and criminal shows offered to commercial audiences. And that is exactly why *Glee* is going to succeed: because it’s different, and that’s what makes it special.

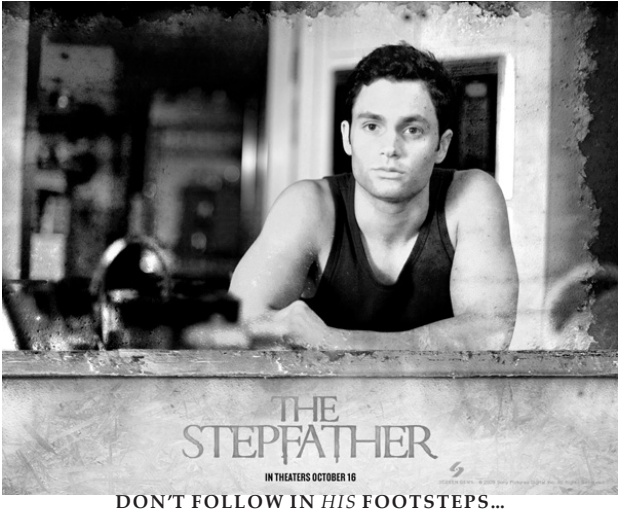
## A Faulty Father Figure

By ANTHONY BETANCES, III  
STAFF WRITER

“Family is the most important thing.” These are the first words Michael hears upon returning from military school. It is the motto of David Harris, the new man in his mother’s life. Like in *Hamlet*, Michael comes home to find that his mother has moved on from her recent divorce and has a new ring on her finger. He soon suspects that there may be more to his stepfather than he previously thought. Believing that his stepfather is a serial killer who strategically targets single-mothers, Michael quickly tries to prove it before his family becomes the next newspaper headline. Dylan Walsh (Nip/Tuck) stars alongside Sela Ward and Penn Badgely (Gossip Girl) in this chilling thriller. With its primetime television cast, this movie was bound to capture large audiences, and raked in over \$12.3 million by the end of its weekend debut. Though this remake displays a younger, more familiar cast, the plot is nothing new. In fact, two decades ago, during the golden age of Hollywood’s “slasher films,” audiences packed into theaters to watch the original *Stepfather* (1987). It was so successful that it was followed by a sequel, *Stepfather II* (1989), and a third installment produced by HBO in 1992. The plot was loosely based on the life of John List, a New Jersey accountant, who, in 1971, killed his mother, wife, and

three adolescent children. This remake’s plot, however, has been adapted to fit today’s technologically advanced society. Cell phones, music players, computers, the internet, and even video chat are frequently used throughout the movie. While a newspaper article aroused suspicion of the deranged man’s hidden past in the original, the remake shows a story broadcasted on America’s Most Wanted. It is a change large enough to make anyone with prior knowledge of the List case smile, given that List was finally put behind bars in 1989 following the broadcast of his case on the popular FOX program after being fugitive of the law for 18 years,. Walsh offers an excellent portrayal of the role that launched Terry O’Quinn’s career in the original *Stepfather*; he convincingly depicts “David Harris” as a disturbed sociopath, from his supreme deliverance of lines to his austere, facial expressions. As the leading lady, Ward phenomenally interprets Michael’s mother as a desperate woman in denial, striving to maintain the perfection that her fam-

ily accomplished when Harris came into their lives. Despite the modern approach taken by director Nelson McCormick and screenwriter J.S. Cardone, as well as the enticing performances of both Walsh and Ward, the plot lacks substance. Thinking back, I can only remember a shirtless Badgely and a bikini-clad Amber Heard, whose only change of clothes was a pair of skimpy underwear. Why? I do not have a selective memory, but this is just about all they wear in the film. Their make-out scenes by the pool, meanwhile, are so frequent that it almost seems like the writers just threw one in anytime they ran into writer’s block. In the end, though, the audience gets exactly what it bargained for. While periodically, the movie fell flat, the quality of acting, as well as the attention to detail and interesting camera angles in certain scenes, makes *Stepfather* worthwhile. This film is enjoyable and quite entertaining, but if you have not seen it yet, there is no reason to rush.



## Spotlight Chris Middleton



By NATALYN YU, II  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The first time I ever spoke to Chris was the night before I had a solo violin performance. I agreed to perform after Sherry Wu (I) asked me to do it in her place as a favor, so she could use the time to prepare for her AP Chem test. Knowing that Chris was a pianist, I got his number and called him, not having much hope that anyone would be insane enough to perform with a stranger on such short notice. After pleading my case, he said, “Let me see if I remember how to play that.” And he did. Out of curiosity, I asked him why he was doing this. “For music,” he smiled, without a missing a beat. It was refreshing to meet someone who was so open to helping others, and the performance was by far the best favor I’ve ever done.

Immediately, I was able to see that Chris was genuinely a great guy: friendly, open minded, talking about anything from politics to friendship issues, and filled with an abundance of facts that I will probably never need to know. Did you know that the Irish Wolf Hound is the largest dog in the world?

Last spring, Chris, along with three other music groups from Boston, received the honor of performing with the Boston Pops after winning the Fidelity Futurestage at the Boston Pops contest. This was, of course, a big deal. As a result, Chris was able to share some of the music that he wrote and composed himself. So far, this indie rock musician has 54 composed songs, and judging from the piles of notebooks he has, there are many more to come. In addition to playing with the Boston Pops, he has also performed for TEDxBoston and Ben & Jerry’s Joy Ride Event, adding to his musical resume.

It comes as no surprise that Chris is incredibly active in Boston Latin’s music department. As a trumpet player, pianist, and french horn rookie, he has been in Big Band since 2008, and prior to this, he was in Junior Jazz Band. This is his fifth year in Football Band and third year in Wolf-tones. You can often find him in Mr.Pitts’ office, helping out with whatever needs to be done, again showing his willingness to assist others and to immerse himself in music.

I’m incredibly grateful towards Chris, because he is supportive, and he always pushes me to do what I’m most afraid of. He continually reads scraps of paper filled with my story ideas and lyrics, and he recently helped me get over my fear of singing. Everyone who knows him has told me what an amazing person he is, although this goes without saying. I will be sad to see him going off to college next year, but excited to see him top himself and accomplish even greater things.

From the chorus of his song, “The Sea Inside of Me,” ”I command the walls to fall/Into the sea inside of me/And let in sunlight desperately needed/To furnish my heart’s canopy./And swallow up the silence/With photons of delight/That brighten my misgivings/’Midst the loneliness of night.”



*Fashion*  
Falling for the '80s



By **OLIVIA GRANT, I**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There’s something for everyone this fall as the “anything goes” eighties attitude reemerges with the decade’s distinct fashion. For those people who like to make a loud statement with their style, this season provides the perfect opportunity to do so with neon colors, fingerless gloves, acid wash jeans, structured shoulders, and big, showy jewelry. To achieve the perfect rocker or preppy look, follow these trends:

**80s Look:** The eighties are back and color splashes of neon are everywhere! In addition to splashes of neon, fingerless gloves are slowly gaining momentum. And acid wash skinny jeans for all shapes, sizes and prices are one of the must have items for the fall due to their versatility and fun, interesting look. Structured shoulders, or shoulder pads, are becoming omnipresent as they grace the catwalks of designers like Marc Jacobs, Givenchy and 3.1 Phillip Lim this fall season. Now, in the midst of clothing we cannot forget accessories. Statement jewelry is a big item this season, particularly necklaces and chains when they are used for embellishment.

**Rocker Look:** The rocker look from the summer is still present this fall. Leather jackets are must haves since they can be worn with virtually anything and still keep you warm. If girls, however, are looking for a sleeker look for parties or a night on the town, short metallic dresses or tunics with exquisite draping, paired with leggings or tights and stiletto boots at any height, are a great choice—especially when worn with a leather jacket! And specifically for this season, look to Balenciaga—whose party outfits with metallic touches are put together in a funky and elegant way—for inspiration.

**Preppy Look:** Everyone is hopping on the neon bandwagon, even designers like Lacoste, with splashes of color in their polos, trousers, and cardigans. They even have fingerless gloves for those preps who love the eighties. For those who aren’t the biggest eighties fans, seek out Ralph Lauren for ideas. His fall 2009 collection presents traditional muted fall colors as well as a creamy and soft pink color palate, luxurious furs, rich suedes, velvets and tweeds. For the preppy girl, shoes like flats with decorative jewelry and riding boots with adorable buckles are big this season. For the preppy guy, loafers and tennis shoes are the main footwear styles to have paired with chinos of crème or khaki and a brightly colored or nicely patterned cardigan, sweater or polo. Patterns like argyles, plaids and colorful lines are finding their way onto sweaters and shirts.

Although the weather this season may be drab and dreary, the fashion certainly is not. The most important rule to remember for the fall and winter fashion seasons is that there really is no rule. It’s completely up to you what you want to wear, where you want to wear it, and how you want to wear it. Switch it up and have fun playing with the different colors and structures and styles this season has to offer.

A & E  
A Different Kind of Education

By **BIANCA SAUNDERS, I**  
STAFF WRITER

Most of us here at Boston Latin School know the importance of an education. As much as we hate to admit it, this education prepares us for life. We often find ourselves, however, questioning whether it would be more fulfilling to experience life in other ways, giving up the tedious and monotonous work of a classical education forever. This question is the essential theme of the quaint, coming of age tale, *An Education*.

Set in the early 1960s England, *An Education*, loosely based on the memoirs of journalist Lynn Barber, portrays the tale of Jenny (Carey Mulligan), a 16-year-old girl who finds herself bored with the classical education that her materialistic parents, with hopes of sending their daughter to Oxford, have pushed on her. It is not until she is charmed by an older man in his thirties, David (Peter Sarsgaard) that her world begins to brighten up. Suddenly Jenny finds herself desiring to give up the education she has worked her whole life for in exchange for the love she has for David and the high class, up-tempo world that he and his friends indulge themselves in. The question is: what is more important, an education, or the freedom to follow your every whim?

This storyline may sound cliché and one that has been re-used time and time again. A love affair between a young girl and an older man might even sound too provocative, but *An Education* is anything but typical movie trash. From the barely-there love scenes to the mixture

of glamour and innocence, *An Education* takes the viewers away from the sex and violence that dominates the big screen

the essence of 1960s England and the rollercoaster emotions of a first love. Mulligan is an onscreen darling whose innocent and adorable nature light up the screen. The chemistry found between Mulligan and ever-so-charming Sarsgaard matches that of Rachel McAdams and Ryan Gosling, costars of the timeless love story, *The Notebook*, and the parallel between the humorously quirky, uptight nature of Jenny’s parents and David’s gorgeously sophisticated friends adds to the quaint and lighthearted nature of the film.

Prior to signing up to review *An Education*, I had heard little about this hidden jewel, which was a Sundance Film Festival winner. As an independent movie, it can only be viewed at

certain smaller theaters near Boston, but it definitely is more than worth the trip. After reading a summary of the movie, I half expected it to be another romantic comedy that would soon be stored away in the back of my mind, but I was most definitely mistaken. *An Education* is an onscreen gem you won’t soon forget.



Ugly Betty Gets Prettier

**MONICA BULGER, II**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the show, *Ugly Betty*, enters its fourth season, it is easy to see why people might have begun to wonder whether it could maintain its relevancy. After three years on the air – one of which was cut extremely short because of a writer’s strike – the producers of the show have provided viewers with countless twists and turns in an attempt to keep up popular interest. As I sat down to watch the season premiere, however, I could not help but question whether it could live up to previous seasons.

I was pleasantly surprised. After two hours, *Ugly Betty* has once more proved itself relevant, and the intriguing plot line has captured my attention. The show began with Betty finally moving up in the Meade Publishing Company, where she had been working for a few years helping Daniel Meade, the irresponsible heir to the company, manage the fashion magazine, *Mode*. After maneuvering herself around her fashion-forward, stick-skinny and gorgeous colleagues for the past seasons, Betty was finally given a job as an Associate Features Editor at the end of Season Three. At the last second, however, she discovers that her new boss will be none other than her ex-boyfriend, with whom she split less than amicably. After the season ended, my fellow viewers and I were left on the edge of our seats with a million questions: Would Betty be

able to hash it out with her ex? Would Daniel recover from the recent loss of his wife, even without Betty at his side? Could Betty finally succeed?

The season seemed skeptical at first, but as the episode wound on, Betty jumped over many of her obstacles, making a few friends in her new, more competitive department. Even before that, viewers were provided with some tantalizing twists: the typical villain, Daniel’s co-editor, Wilhelmina, trying to protect her daughter from the police; Betty’s flamboyant nephew, Justin, having a tough time fitting in at his high school; and Daniel becoming alarmingly violent since he lost his wife to cancer in the Season Three finale. The dialogue in the premiere has significantly improved from that of the preceding finale, and the filming itself has become far more polished, thanks to a switch in production teams. A new director has also added a different perspective to the previous infamously narrow-minded crew. Aesthetically, *Ugly Betty* has become prettier.

The main character does not look too bad herself. During the premiere, Betty decides to tone down her usual obnoxious outfits, grows out her bangs, and gets a new pair of glasses. During the predictable cliché makeover scene, Betty, played by America Ferrera, finally shines through those huge eyebrows and horrendous makeup. While Betty still is not pretty, she does not seem quite so “ugly” anymore – largely due to Ferrera’s

improved acting skills. Eric Mabius, as Daniel Meade, is also finally growing into his character, especially as he falls into a darker and darker pit of depression as a result of his true love’s death.

While *Ugly Betty* remains fast-paced, it is becoming more serious as the characters get entangled in their own lies and misdeeds. Though murder has been used on the show before, it was usually dealt in a lighthearted approach. For example, the first murder victim on *Ugly Betty* was a mysterious fashion editor, who kept showing up during the first season. Curiously, this character was actually not dead. Now, a main character’s daughter murdered her boyfriend, and then pushed him into the ocean; while trying to conceal one crime, another was committed.

Overall, I was pleased by what *Ugly Betty*’s new season produced. At first, I expected something a bit more mundane, since the show had been becoming increasingly predictable. Instead, a new production crew and direction staff, paired with some re-energized actors, fabricated a show that both captivated and surprised the viewers. The set up of the episode was refreshingly unique, with the title sequence cut short to favor a fast intro with immediate plot twists. So, if you have been putting off watching *Ugly Betty* for fear that it would be repetitive, do not put it off any longer – Betty is back, and she is better (and prettier) than ever.



A & E

B-Good: Not Very Good

By Nick Li, II  
Staff Writer

What’s the first thing that pops into your head when you hear the word “burger”? When one thinks of a burger, it’s usually fairly cheap and delicious to eat. Unfortunately, B-Good’s burgers don’t include either of these traits.



EMPTY FOR A REASON

B-Good, located on Harvard Street at the outer edge of Coolidge Corner, is a burger chain that prides itself on serving “real” food that makes its customers “feel good.” They claim that their burgers are made “the way they should be”: healthy

and by hand. The only thing that B-Good makes one feel is guilty over wasting so much money on such a sub-par burger.

B-Good seems all fine and dandy at first, with a quaint atmosphere reminiscent of the burger-joints and malt shops of old, complete with a checkered floor and lots of red barstools. The bathrooms are very clean and roomy with a cabinet topped by a nice little vase with a floral arrangement inside. The resaturant, however, is rather small, having been a former gas station garage. This means there are only a few tables, so you’re forced to eat at a cramped counter if all the tables are taken. Fortunately, this isn’t much of a problem, as there aren’t many customers in the first place, even at lunch hour.

The real tragedy starts with the menu. Although B-Good allows you to choose a beef, turkey, veggie, or chicken patty, the actual variety of burgers is very limited, with only six total types and no ability to customize your own. In this situation one would think that the quality of the burgers would

make up for the limited choices, but B-Good fails to deliver even a decent burger. Some of the burgers are named after people the owners know, but giving burgers unusual names doesn’t hide the fact that they’re poorly made. “The West Side” comes with avocado, cilantro, tomato, and chipotle salsa, but doesn’t taste like anything other than a big glop of guacamole. The “El Guapo” burger, which contains bacon, jalapeno-ranch, lettuce, tomato, and onion, tastes extremely dry and burnt even when ordered at medium-rare, and the flavor of the jalapeno ranch is so unnoticeable that it’s like they forgot to put on any at all. Another one of B-Good’s supposed selling points is the oven-baked fries, which it claims is a healthier alternative to the regularly fried kind. While they pose less of a threat to your arteries, they have a chewy, unpleasant texture, which makes the added health benefit a

not-so-even trade. Sweet potato fries or vegetables are offered as an alternative to regular French fries for those who are



IF ONLY THEIR IDEAS WERE AS BRIGHT

health-conscious, but the sweet potato fries are mushy and soggy, just like the regular ones.

Sure it may be a healthier alternative to other burger places, but what’s the point of eating healthy if you’re going for a burger in the first place? While some of the burgers, like the “Buffalo Burger,” are decent, they’re tiny and not worth the high prices B-Good charges for them. If B-Good truly really wants to become the McDonald’s-crusher it touts itself as, it really needs to B-Better.

Ignorance is My New Best Friend

By Alice Lu, I  
Contributing Writer

Paramore has been in the music scene for awhile now but recently became even more famous with their song “Decode,” which is the “theme song” for *Twilight*. Their first major tour was with Simple Plan in 2006, which is where I first met them. The band consists of Hayley Williams (lead vocalist), Josh Farro (lead guitarist), Jeremy Davis (bass guitar), and Zac Farro (drums), and Taylor York (rhythm guitar). Back then, Williams was only a tiny sixteen year old girl with bright red hair, belting her heart out and bobbing her head up and down on the stage like you’ve never seen before. With a stand out song in the incredibly popular movie *Twilight*, and other chart topping songs such as “Misery Business,” Paramore has sold hundreds of thousands of albums, and has completed many successful world tours; Paramore has definitely grown up.

Paramore recently came to Boston on their Brand New Eyes Tour, which corresponds to the release of their new album with the same name. The album has recieved mixed reviews. They are heading in a new direction with this album but also keeping the flare of their old music style. This album contains more ballads, while previous albums have focused on rock.

Nevertheless, Paramore fans will greatly enjoy *Brand New Eyes* and everything it has to offer.

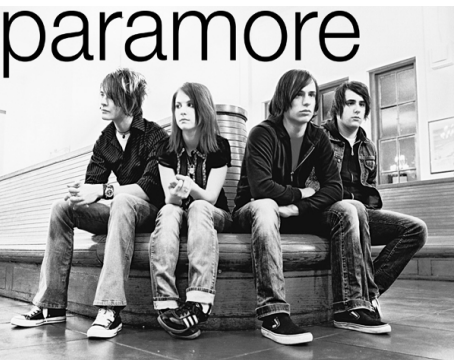
As I walked into the House of Blues, the concert’s venue, which had recently undergone some renovations, I could feel the excitement and suspense of the night. The crowd was in complete awe and waiting with anticipation; I even overheard a girl say this was the best thing to happen to her all year. However, the coatcheck was a bit pricey at \$4, and the merchandise being sold was definitely not worth over \$25. The food and drinks were completely overpriced, just as anyone might have expected.

I made my way to the floor where a crowd of thirty or so people had already formed. There were also balcony and railing seats, primarily occupied by parents who were dragged along by their children. The show had a great turnout. The crowd was a mixture of different people of various ages. There were parents along with little children, young hopeful

teenagers, and annoying middle-aged fans; surprisingly, Paramore hits a very varied demographic. The fan base there was questionable. It seemed that the majority of the crowd were true Paramore fans, while the rest were fans of *Twilight*.

The show was a bit slow to start and the opening band, The Swellers, was not able to get the crowd pumped and ready for the main act. It left me yawning and wanting to go to bed. They were musically talented, but their presence was weak. The next act, Paper Route, did a much better job of getting the audience’s attention. With their unique style and various instruments, they created a mystical and fantastical atmosphere within the crowd that left us mesmerized.

After waiting about twenty minutes following the second act, Paramore finally got on stage. As the members walked on the stage, each person got some cheers, claps, and “I love you’s.” They started off with songs from their new album, including one of my favorites, “Ignorance”. The crowd was completely alive and singing along to every word. “Misery Business,” “That’s What You Get,” and “CrushCrushCrush” seemed to have been some



FROM PARAMORE TO PARAMOST

of the crowd’s favorites. They also performed some songs from their sophomore album, such as “Here We Go Again.” However, they didn’t perform “Pressure,” which is one of my personal favorites.

Throughout the show, the band had great audience interaction and brought much humor to the stage. Jeremy Davis gave the crowd great laughs and even shook his derriere to one of the audience members. The only exception was Josh Farro, who seemed uninterested and distracted. Towards the end of the show, they performed an acoustic version of “Misguided Ghost,” which is quite a depressing song. However, they ended the show with their new single “Brick By Boring Brick,” which had the crowd completely enthralled.

There were some standout performances during the show, including the moment when Hayley sang “Miracle Outro” with the stage lights down and the other members kneeling their heads. The performance was unexpected and left many in the crowd speechless and unable to move or look away.

Overall, this was not the best show I have ever attended, but it was still incredible. With this tour, Paramore has reached new heights, and it has been amazing to watch them grow and mature over the years.

Horoscopes

By Tatiana Joyce, III  
Contributing Writer

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don’t be so deceptive today. It will not bode well.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You know you’re an outdoorsy kind of person. Just take a second to consider the consequences of hopping the fence to Mexico.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Capricorns are known to be confident; work that Amy Winehouse up-do, and you’ll get all the candy you’ve ever wanted.

Nobody will be able to say “No, no, no.”

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Though you’re the most honest of the zodiac signs, it might be better to lie about your age this week. It gets kind of embarrassing to say you’re a 17-year-old trick-or-treat-er.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your creativity has the power to inspire others. But don’t be too crazy.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your aggressive nature will not be beneficial today. Avoid acting a fool in front of

Headmaster Mooney-Teta.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Perhaps you could take a ‘walk on the wild side’ and try something new for a change, i.e. don’t wear the same lame ghost costume you wore five years ago...

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may have two personalities in you, but stop being so indecisive!

CANCER (June 22-July 22). We know you’re a passionate stubborn person, but just because your friend accidentally took your Milky Ways doesn’t mean you

have to strangle them with Twizzlers. Chillax.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are the king of the jungle. Use that power wisely.

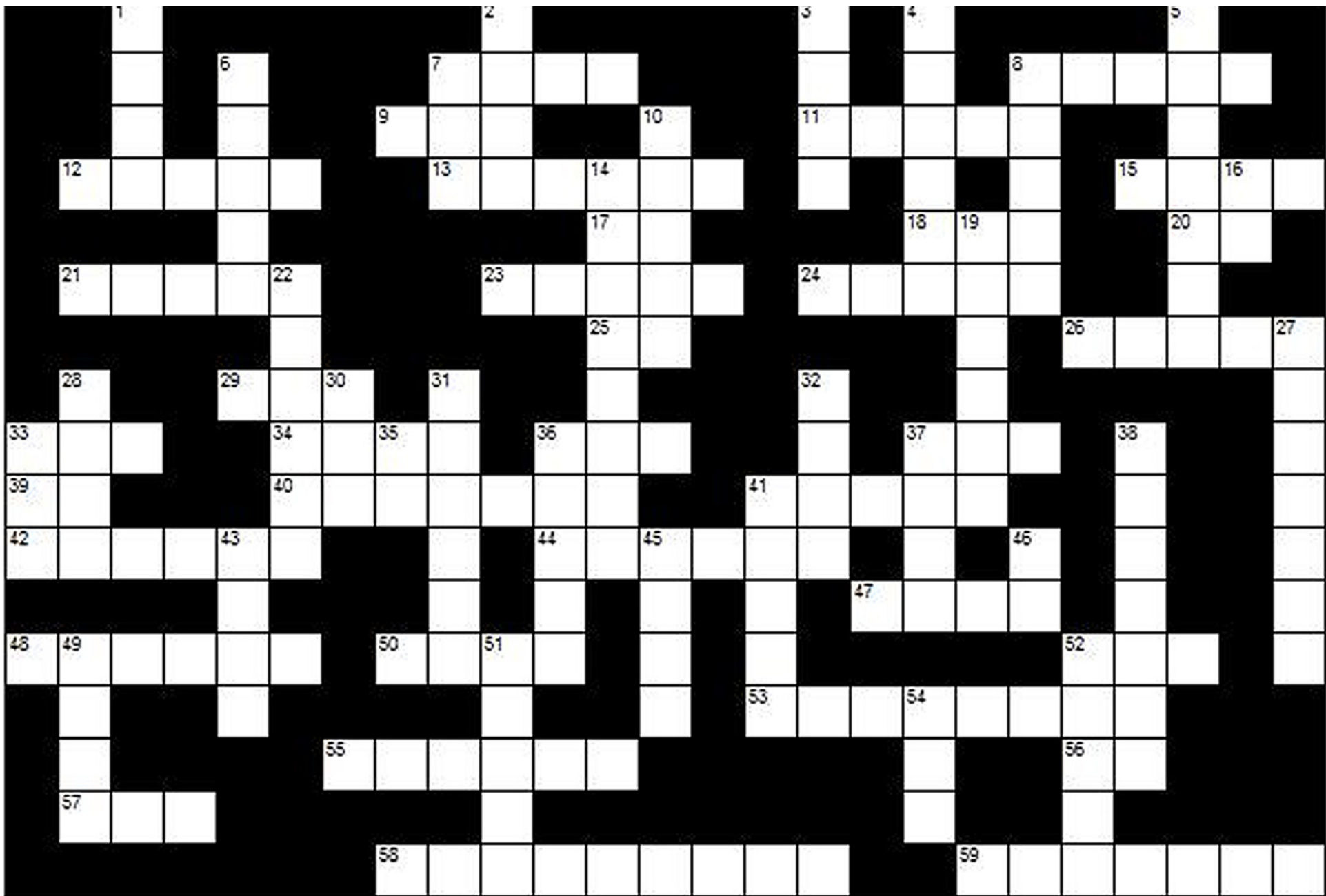
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If you put the natural charm you have to good use, you might just be able to convince your English teacher to change that B+ to an A-...

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Keep your optimism strong, even when Ms. Demeanor destroys your entire report card.



# FUN PAGE

## The Official *Argo* Crossword



### Across

7. Jamaican sprinter who holds the world record for the 100m  
8. Third largest pharmaceutical company in the world  
9. Class of 2010 Presidential slogan: Vote \_\_\_\_ now  
11. Angle variable  
12. Male hygienic tool  
13. Of, or belonging to, the Class of 2010 Secretary  
15. 1st Nickelodeon Nicktoon (August 11, 1991)  
17. Last of 13 states to ratify US Constitution (abbr.)  
18. Citation Format  
20. In internet lingo, the appropriate response to “ty”  
21. Current BLS mascot Wolfie  
23. Colgate rival  
24. To praise highly; glorify  
25. 1st declension dative ending; section of the Argo  
26. Boston Red Sox #1  
29. 2016 Summer Olympics location  
33. Don’t \_\_\_\_, don’t tell  
34. Capital of Peru  
36. Water container  
37. I guess this Jonas is a single lady?  
39. Yann Martel novel: Life of \_\_\_\_  
40. Legendary retired Latin Prose Honors teacher  
41. French dialect mostly spoken in Louisiana; Boloco option  
42. Hosts Hell’s Kitchen  
44. Science lawmaker?  
47. Thick soup  
48. MC who can’t be touched?  
50. Media buzz  
52. Billie Holiday: Lady \_\_\_\_  
53. Only female UK prime minister  
55. Cutely old  
56. British Isles  
57. Trail \_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_ tape  
58. She’s cheer captain, and I’m on the \_\_\_\_  
59. Keeps hot drinks hot and cold drinks cold

### Down

1. Clueless is based off of this Jane Austen novel  
2. Dirty Jobs host Mike \_\_\_\_  
3. This actor is a very 'inglorious basterd'  
4. Only word in the English language that ends in 'mt'  
5. She had "one of the best videos of all time!"  
6. Emma Watson's Ivy League choice  
7. Float; Outkast single (abbr.)  
8. Commonplace; trite; unoriginal  
10. Risky poker play  
14. It might be buried  
16. Summer 2009 Pixar movie  
19. 2012 Summer Olympics location  
22. Culpable  
27. YouthCAN action  
28. Hosts Sushirama  
30. To hear, to Juan  
31. Verbose, almost incoherent, American Pageantwriter  
32. Read quickly  
33. An abbreviation for both an interest rate and amonth  
35. Argo News Editor; where we are RIGHT NOW  
36. Where the Wild Things Are director  
37. Morally right  
38. Something is rotten in the state of \_\_\_\_  
41. \_\_\_\_ Chocula  
43. The most famous garden, perhaps?  
45. Stadium motion  
46. Password; last name of EIC  
49. Man v. Food host \_\_\_\_ Richman  
51. Indivisible number  
52. 40-all, in tennis  
54. This was increased from 5 to 6.25 in Massachusetts

## Sudokus

Easy

4			1			8		
		5		6	8			7
8			4	3				1
3	1	9	8				5	
	7			5			1	
	5				6	3	4	9
7				4	9			5
5			6	7		9		
		3			2			4

Diabolical

7		5					6	
				4			1	9
			3				2	
			4					3
6	4		5		7		8	1
2				1				
	6			3				
1	9			2				
	8					9		2



SPORTS

Boys' Soccer Adjusts to New Coach

By **Jiayuan Wang, I**  
Staff Writer

The Boys' Varsity Soccer team has been putting good effort into every one of its games. The team is doing its best and although it is not winning every game, it has excellent team spirit. We should put ourselves in the team's shoes and understand that it spends so much time vigorously practicing and optimizing its skills. According to co-captain Derek Miller (I), "As far as practice is concerned, at the beginning of the season we spent a lot of time conditioning and working hard to prepare for the season." The team primarily employs a 4-4-2, but occasionally uses a 4-5-1 formation against better teams in order to contain them with hard-pressed offense. "As the season progressed," Miller added, "practice has been more focused on recovering physically from games and working on strategy and tactics against

various teams." Despite a slow start, we should



KEEPING UP THE GOOD WORK

not judge the team based on its performance; it still has chances to improve its record. Eli Hoffman (I) gives insight on the team and says, "We've played a lot better than the results show. There have been a few losses where we put

forth more effort than some of our ties." The game against Catholic Memorial was

probably the best one all season, considering the skill level of the opponent. By half-time, the Wolfpack had jumped to a 2-1 lead, but couldn't seal the deal. "That's been our biggest problem this season," Hoffman adds. "When we get a lead, we have trouble holding it." A similar situation occurred in the game against Newton South, where a 2-0 lead ended in a 2-2 tie. The coach of the team, Jay Boden, provides the team its foundation and is able to help players improve. The team as a whole is progressing day by day. As player Elvin Cako (I) says, "We're very

organized with the new coach and have a lot of young talent, so we are only going to get better." The team had an auspicious start and although the games against Lincoln-Sudbury, Concord-Carlisle, and Catholic Memorial might have slightly affected team morale, players know that they can do better. Miller evaluates the team's standing, "Overall, I would say the team is pretty good. We have been very competitive in almost every game we have played."

Not only has the team been improving for this season, but the Wolfpack also appears to be primed for a successful future. Players such as Nacho Farias (II), Cam Labeck (II), and Andre Simpson (II) have the experience needed to lead the team to greater heights. "The team is actually looking very good for the future," Miller concludes, "Some of the most influential players on the team are younger kids who have done a very good job."

BLS Girls' Volleyball Clinches Playoff Berth

By **Dora Tao, I**  
& **Colin Murphy, III**  
Contributing Writer & Staff Writer

The Boston Latin School Girls' Volleyball Team has been a perennial powerhouse; last season, the team won Division Sectionals. As is true for most school teams, however, the matriculation of the 2009 class led to the loss of six prominent players, including captains Suzi Lu and Amelia George, who both were DCL All-Stars. With this substantial loss of talent, one would assume that the team performance would deteriorate. But, with the emergence of young sophomore players, the Wolfpack finds itself at 9-6 and have clinched the playoffs as a result.

The squad has certainly exceeded expectations this season. "I didn't expect to do so well since we lost 3 of our best players," says Captain Kit Ho (I). One of

the broader goals of the season, continued progression, would eventually lead to improved play however.

"We always want to improve throughout the season," said Samantha Prince (I). "I think we've all done that and we've gotten a lot more experience in the process." Experience was a necessity for a relatively young team. Captains Ho and Chanel Lee (I) have led a Wolfpack team that features six sophomores. Three of them, Claire Zimmerman, Courtney Hoban, and Laura Sullivan have cracked the starting lineup this season. While the new young talent has provided energy, it has also led to issues with inconsistency. Ultimately, the pros have outweighed the cons, and

as Prince puts it, "We have the perfect combination of veteran players and young



LATIN SCHOOL'S FIRST PLAYOFF-BOUND TEAM

raw talent that equally contribute to the team."

The girls have faced stiff competition this season, but have proven to have

the capability to overcome these challenges. For example, BLS shut out Westford Academy 3-0 recently, avenging a 3-1 defeat earlier in the year. The Wolfpack's toughest opponent thus far has been Newton South, who also beat them earlier in the season. In the rematch of this contest on October 23, BLS vanquished the Lions 3-1.

In regards to chemistry, the team has come together to form an effective and cohesive unit. "Individually," says Sophia Trinh (II), "I think everybody has their own special talent, but together as a team, we can do amazing things." Look for the Girls' Volleyball squad to ratchet up their performance as they look to reach Sectionals once again.

Girls' Swimming Overcomes Obstacles

By **David Vyshedsky, II** & **Luke McKinnon, II**  
Contributing Writers

Boston Latin School is known for its brains, but is there something else BLS should be known for? The answer is most resoundingly yes! Our school has an amazing girls' swim team, and its ranks are filled with the best. The girls work extremely hard. Since practice starts right after school, just surviving it is no easy feat. The swim team practices at the Murphy pool in Dorchester with Coach Conley and Assistant Coach Connolly supervising it. The swim team is also led by six amazing team captains: Lydia Hogan (I), Mona Huang (I), Ellen Keenan (I), Sam Monday (I), Brighid O'Brien (I), and Bridget Quinn (I). These captains have led the girls to three wins and four losses, which is good for a swim team without

divers. BLS has learned to thrive without this important component, which they

have lacked for years.

To achieve these results, the team works hard and maintains a positive

advance their game. They must attain a higher, better, and faster way to swim if they want to stay in the running for state

you see a meet, you will understand that swimming is one of the most competitive sports out there.



A "REAL" TEAM

attitude. As the season nears its conclusion, the girls have to buck up and

championships. Swimming may not seem like a very competitive sport, but once

When a girl from your school is racing back at full speed into an unyielding wall, you are gripped with fear. You want to win; at that moment in time, you will give everything you own just to see your team win. The person in the water has it even harder. She knows it is close; every time she pops her head up so that she can breathe, she sees a glimpse of her opponent. Adrenaline pushes her to a new level where there is no pain. This is the type of dedication and passion every girl on the BLS swim team possesses.

This enthusiasm cannot be taught by the coaches, nor enforced by the captains. The team is not defined by the amount of victories it accomplishes. When a team loses, but can still keep its dignity, then it is a real team. I am proud to say that the Boston Latin School Girls' Swim team definitely matches this criteria.



# Should Athletes be Given a Second Chance?



YES

BY RICARDO A. SÁNCHEZ, I

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

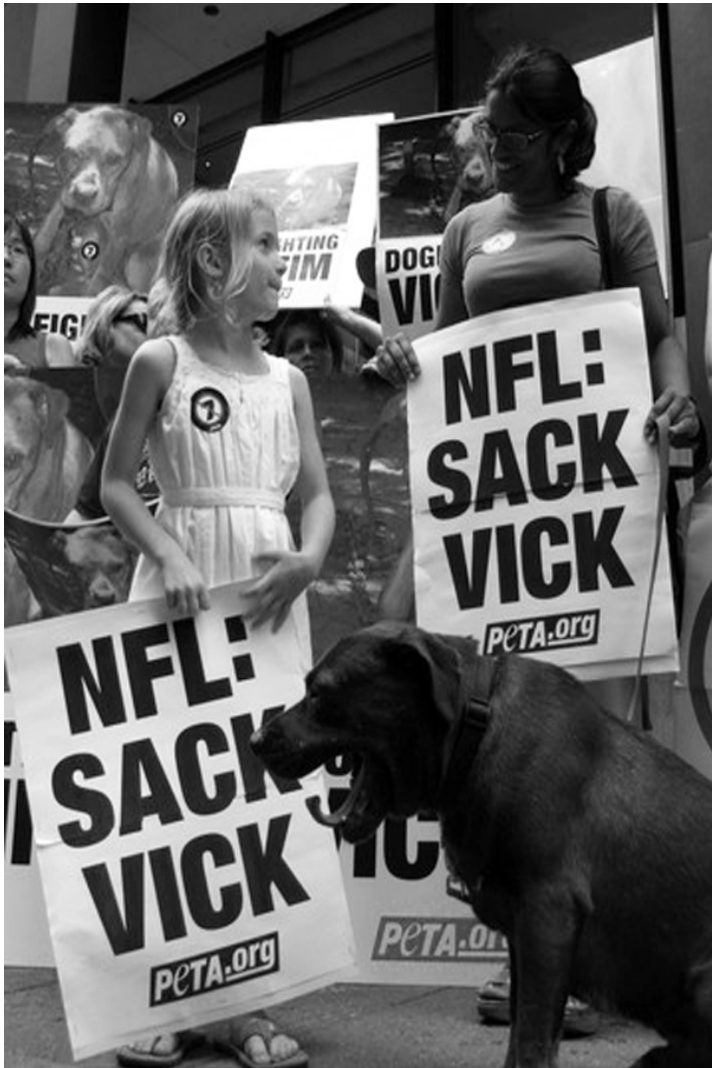
One of the most controversial issues in sports today is whether or not athletes convicted of crimes should be given second chances to play professionally in their respective sports. Many might argue that athletes should not be given second opportunities because it would be setting a bad example to fans and other people in society. What people do not realize is that giving pro athletes second chances is in fact positive. Athletes should be given second chances because it's an opportunity for them to prove to society that they are truly remorseful and are willing to redeem themselves by serving as positive role models.

The most infamous professional athlete to be given a second chance is Michael Vick. Vick, a quarterback for the Atlanta Falcons in 2007, was convicted for his involvement in an illegal dog fighting ring and sentenced to 23 months in prison. This sentence put him in significant debt, ruined his reputation, and led to NFL commissioner Roger Goodell to suspend him indefinitely. Determined to fix his image and become a better person, Vick sought the guidance of Tony Dungy, a well respected former NFL coach, to leverage his credibility and get himself a new job after his prison sentence. After finishing his sentence, and getting reinstated into the NFL, Vick signed with the Philadelphia Eagles. He is now working with the PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) to talk to Philadelphia urban youth about the detriments to dog-fighting. The fact that Vick ended up signing with Philadelphia, a team that already has an established veteran quarterback in Donovan McNabb proves that Vick has been humbled by this experience. Rather than stubbornly insisting that he should have a starting job upon reinstatement, he chose to accept the backup role in Philly. This is a perfect example of how giving an athlete a second chance can be impact not just the player, but society as a whole.

Another NFL player that had been given a second chance was Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis. In 2000, Ray Lewis was indicted for his involvement in the murder of two men at a Super Bowl party. When put on trial, he pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of obstruction of justice. This tarnished his public image, and he was sentenced to one year of probation, and was fined \$250,000 by the NFL. Ever since then, Lewis has become one of the best leaders in the league, and arguably one of the best linebackers of all-time. He was also named MVP of Super Bowl XXXV. Most importantly, he has had absolutely no mishaps or run-ins with the law since this event. This proves once again how giving athletes second opportunities can have a positive impact on society.

More recently, New York Giants wide receiver Plaxico Burress was sentenced to two years in prison on weapons charges after accidentally shooting himself in the leg with an unlicensed pistol. As idiotic a mistake as this was, Burress should be given the same opportunities that Vick and Lewis were given by the NFL. Once Burress finishes his two-year prison sentence, he should be fully reinstated by the league, and should be allowed to clean up his image and set a positive example. It is only fair that he be given the same opportunities to do so. If Burress is given a second chance, only good will come of it.

Professional athletes can very easily be viewed as role models in society. Since they are playing in front of an international audience, their actions off the field can have significant effects on those watching. Athletes who make mistakes can use their stardom to show how they learned from them, and set positive examples for people everywhere. This was the case with Michael Vick and Ray Lewis. It's not only professional athletes that should be given second chances. Everyone makes mistakes, and everyone should be given a chance to redeem themselves for it.



NO

NOEL HAINES, I

STAFF WRITER

Today's professional athletes play a bigger role in society than ever before. Extensive media coverage and a growing public interest have helped contribute to the transformation of athletes from players followed only in their respective sports, to celebrities whose personal lives are more closely monitored. With this shift in roles, the legal troubles of professional athletes have become headlines nationwide. Despite this negative attention, athletes have repeatedly been given the opportunity to return to their sports to compete. These opportunities for a second chance themselves show why they should not be given to athletes.

Arguably, the most infamous athlete to receive a second chance is NFL quarterback, Michael Vick. The former Atlanta Falcon player's involvement in dog fighting ruined both his reputation and resulted in over \$20 million of debt. Now, after being picked up by the Philadelphia Eagles and reinstated into the league, he has the opportunity to recover from bankruptcy through his work both on and off the field, namely a reality series. The NFL is offering him a second chance to capitalize off of his mistakes for publicity and profit.

The willingness of both sports leagues and their respected teams to welcome back players with criminal records also fosters irresponsibility. The risk from offering someone amends can be seen with NFL player, Leonard Little. The St. Louis Rams Defensive End's first incident was in 1998, when he hit and killed Susan Gutweiler while driving with a blood alcohol level of over two times the legal limit. After pleading guilty, he was suspended for half of the 1999 season and served 98 days in jail. Following the completion of his sentence, he returned back to both the NFL and St. Louis Rams to make over \$37 million, and be part of a Super Bowl winning team before being arrested again in 2004 for both speeding and drunk driving. Despite his record, he remains on the team today. After being granted a second chance, Little abused it by making a similar mistake.

More recently, Donte Stallworth, a wide receiver for the Cleveland Browns, was given a 30-day jail sentence for driving under the influence and manslaughter after hitting, and killing, Mario Reyes in Miami back in March. Although suspended and under house arrest, he was allowed to leave his home five days a week to train in order to stay in shape for his return to the NFL. If the conditions for a player's successful second chance have more weight than his punishment for a crime, then the purpose of punishment is defeated.

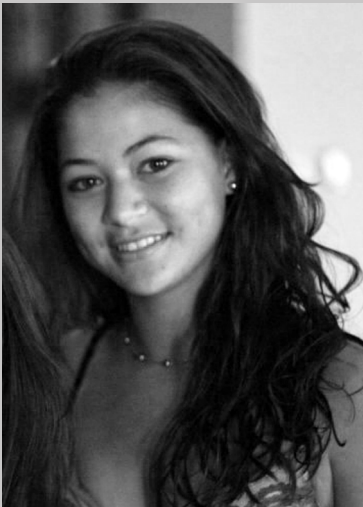
In addition to setting bad examples overall, players can also be disruptive within a sport. Ron Artest, currently a forward for the Los Angeles Lakers of the NBA, has bounced between teams during his career, despite his reputation as one of the league's best defenders. The top of his misbehaviors include a 2007 domestic abuse arrest as a Sacramento King, and his participation in a 2004 brawl in a game against Detroit as an Indiana Pacer. Although he has not been involved in legal cases as big as those of other players, his troubled reputation has provided conflict and distraction for many of his teams.

Everybody makes mistakes, and therefore it is only fair that everybody is given a second chance. However, someone who works a traditional job does not have the same second chance of a professional athlete. It is not the second chance in itself that is bad, but the manner in which it is given and the example that is sets. A second chance after a short punishment with multiple privileges downplays the severity of the offense. It promotes the idea that athletes can commit crimes and return to their lives with few consequences. Second chances in professional sports show an unwillingness of the leagues and teams to hold players responsible for their actions when the legal system fails to.



Spotlight

Tonia Speicher



By OLIVIA COLLINS, I  
STAFF WRITER

Tonia Speicher: the combination of an Asian and a Jew. In early June 1992, Tonia was born with an IQ of 130 and the strength of Hercules, two things that would bear importance on her future. Currently living in Charlestown with her parents, Hungwei and Howie Speicher, and her two brothers, Josh and Ben, Tonia lives the life of a “Tooney,” (a fake townie). Tonia originally grew up in Charles River Park before she journeyed to “C-Town.” She spent most of her summers relaxing by the Charles River Park pool with her lifelong best friend, Cate Tompkins. During the fall, Tonia attended the Josiah Quincy School in Chinatown, playing numerous sports to keep her busy. Having spent her whole academic career at Josiah Quincy School, she was prepared to take the ISEE in November 2003, the test that would determine her future. In late May 2004, Tonia received a letter in the mail announcing her acceptance into the most prestigious high school in the country: Boston Latin School. As if the screams from Mrs. Speicher were not enough, her kind brothers, Josh and Ben, felt the need to rub it in that they were accepted into the school at higher ranks than Tonia. But Tonia did not let those two punks get to her; she thrived for success, and has yet to stop receiving it.

Now, I have no memory of Tonia from seventh or eighth grade. However, in the ninth grade, I was fortunate enough to meet this beauty of an Asian-Jew. It was really the Class of 2010 that brought us together. Had it not been for that Facebook group, “One Ohh You Knoooow,” I would not have had the privilege of meeting one of my best friends. Over the past few years, I learned a lot about Tonia; her ability to be a great friend is just one of them. Since eighth grade, Tonia has been an influential part of the Latin School community. It was, then, that she decided to join the BLS Girls Soccer and Softball teams. A year later, she decided to become a member of the BLS Track team and manage the Wrestling team. Five years later, Tonia has the honorary position of Captain to the soccer team, to which she dedicates her entire fall season. During the winter season, you would be amazed by what Tonia manages to do, along with managing the wrestling team and running for track. I can always hear her cheering at the hockey games, or meet up with her to attend a basketball game. BLS means the world to Tonia, and without it, she would not be the amazing person that she is.

Tonia hopes to attend the University of Vermont next fall. I am sure she will have as much a positive impact there as here, at BLS. I wish Tonia the best of luck in her future, and hope that she can be the beef to everyone’s taco, like she is to mine. Tonia, I love you like a fat kid loves cake.

SPORTS

Bruins Aiming for Victory

By ALI GHORBI, I  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After a disappointing end to the 2008-2009 campaign, the Boston Bruins are aiming for a victory at Lord Stanley’s Cup in 2010. The same corps of players returns from last year’s playoff squad with the exception of a few new signings. The biggest off-season move was the trade of forward Phil Kessel, the team’s leading goal-scorer last season. Although he has an amazing skillset, his failure to play defense, as well as his inconsistency, made him expendable to the Bruins. In his three years with the team, it was clear that he neither felt comfortable with the media nor accepted the responsibilities of playing hockey in a passionate sports town. These deciding factors are probably what led General Manager Peter Chiarelli to shop him around the league. After several months of a rumored trade, Kessel was traded to the Toronto Maple Leafs on September 18. In return, the Boston Bruins received Toronto’s first round picks in 2010 and 2011 and their second round pick in 2010.

Kessel has been replaced by Marco Sturm, an assistant captain who is returning from a torn anterior cruciate ligament that forced him to miss most of last season. Alongside Sturm is Marc Savard, the Bruins biggest offensive threat,

coming off a 25-goal, 63-assist season. Completing the line is the new hometown favorite, Milan Lucic, whose physical presence along with his playmaking ability helps make this line one of the most well-rounded in the league. Centering the second line is David Krejci, the 2008-2009 league leader in plus/minus at +36. Krejci is joined by one of the better puck handlers on the team, Blake Wheeler. The other winger on the line, Michael Ryder, had a 27-goal season last year and will continue to produce consistently as long as he can stay healthy.

The biggest potential problem lies on the defensive blue line. The Bruins’ first line will consist of Captain Zdeno Chara and Andrew Ference. Both of these players are very good on both sides of the ice. The second line of defense should consist of Dennis Wideman and Derek Morris. Both of these defenders are solid, but are not spectacular in any particular area. The two defenders on the third line are Mark Stuart and Matt Hunwick. Hunwick is a young player with a lot of potential, but Stuart has been very inconsistent in his time with the team. In the goal will be Tim Thomas, who was voted the best goalie in the entire league last year. Hopefully, Thomas will continue his fantastic play behind the pipes. The 2009-2010 Bruins have a lot of potential, but it is up to Coach Claude Julien to bring out the talent in the team.

Girls' Soccer - Hope, Fight, Win

By DEIRDRE GALLAGHER, I  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Varsity Girls’ Soccer team certainly has a lot to be proud of. Led by Captains Kaitlyn Butler (I), Tonia Speicher (I), Kirsten Hartwick (I), and Emma Gilman (I), the team began the year with only one win but changed things up a bit in hopes of improving the season. According to Beata Coloyan (I), there are a number of reasons things are beginning to look up. In addition to switching up the positions, they are also working on strategy, whether it be specific ways to move the ball up the field or taking opponents one-on-one. This gave the girls more confidence on the field. Another factor that has led to success was promoting two leading scorers from the Junior Varsity squad to offense.

Changes in the team have helped reduce the number of goals scored against them, from 27 goals in the first third of the season, to only 10 in the second third. The decrease in points allowed can be attributed to goalies Christiana Hynds (II) and



GIRLS SOCCER'S SENIOR LEADERS

Ruby Sarron (II). Christiana’s consistent saves have helped the team in a number of circumstances, and Ruby’s divine stops are certainly something to notice. Emma Gilman’s (I) solid skills and success at distributing the ball, make her a key component to the team. These advantages led the team to a tie against Newton South. This has not been achieved in nine years.

With wins against Tyngsboro and Boston Latin Academy, the team is on its way to achieving some of the goals they set for themselves, from scoring more goals to winning more games. In response to the team’s performance on the field, Tonia Speicher (I) said, “We are much better than last year. This year everyone gets along, so there’s more bonding, and that translates to playing better as a team.” This bond that the girls share is a very apparent one in the hallways at Boston Latin School. Every game day, we see them sporting their jump suits or being dressed to impress. On top of their game day attire, recently the team had a day of Breast Cancer awareness during which they all had matching pink tie-dye shirts reading “hope fight win”. We can thank the girls for their famous “t-shirt making parties” that have set fire to the creativity of teams throughout the school.

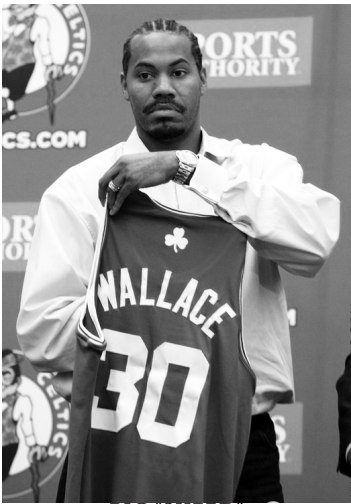
After a rise in the success of the team, the girls can’t help but look forward to ending the season strong and being able to send the team’s eight seniors off on a good note. With upcoming games that they believe they have a shot at, including another Dual County League game against Newton South, the girls will be working harder than ever.

New Faces for the Celtics

By VIMIN TO, I  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Last year’s season was a little disappointing, to say the least. The Boston Celtics were one game away from advancing to the Eastern Conference Championship, but they failed. Instead of brooding over the defeat, Danny Ainge has taken an active role in addressing the problems that have plagued the Celtics. Numerous players have been acquired to bolster the Celtics bench.

The biggest offseason acquisition for the Celtics is Rasheed “Sheed” Wallace. Known as one of the most versatile frontcourt players in the National Basketball Association, Wallace can simply do it all. On defense, “Sheed” has established himself as a suffocating post presence. His great height, long arms, and athleticism make him one of the hardest players to post up on. On offense, Wallace can score both in the low post and on the perimeter. Unlike most of the other big men in the NBA, he has the rare ability to actually shoot



BIG "SHEED"

the three-pointer. Wallace’s long range shooting complements Kevin Garnett’s mid-range game. Although he is notorious for his tendency to get called for technical fouls, Wallace’s many years of playoff experience as well as his exuberant personality makes him a perfect fit for the Celtics.

Having spent the last three seasons with three different teams, Shelden Williams has yet to reach his full potential. He has only averaged about 4.7 points and 4.2 rebounds in his limited NBA career. Many, however, have forgotten that Williams was once a lottery pick in the 2006 NBA Draft. During his illustrious college career at Duke University, Williams established himself as a prolific scorer, known for his aggressive rebounding and blocking skills. The Celtics believe that he can reinvent himself into the player he once was. Coach Doc Rivers says that Williams’ role this year will be “very similar to Baby’s role [last season], terrific 15-foot shooter, can pop, he’s strong, can really rebound,” the Boston Globe reports. Hopefully, Shelden can bring some much-needed toughness and rebounding to the Celtics front line.

During these last few months, coaches have been searching for those few missing pieces that can make their team a legitimate championship contender. Big names like Shawn Marion, Vince Carter, Ron Artest and Shaquille O’Neal have all found homes in championship-contending teams. The Celtics have responded with their own big-time acquisition of Rasheed Wallace. With these new additions the Celtics may have found just the right recipe to another champion run.



# Pats Victorious

# SPORTS

# College Football

By **ELI HOFFMAN, I**  
STAFF WRITER

The New England Patriots kicked off the 2009 season against the Buffalo Bills, a team whom they had not lost to since the first game of the 2003 season. In quarterback Tom Brady's first game in over a year and a half, that streak was nearly in jeopardy. The Buffalo Bills is a team that has gone 1-3 since that week one loss, and is a perennial cellar dweller in the AFC East. While it was a nice win, the Patriots should have had that game long before they did, even if it was Brady's first game back.

The Patriots came back down to earth in week two against the cocky, new-look New York Jets. Led by new coach Rex Ryan, and rookie quarterback Mark Sanchez, the Jets were able to back up the trash talking they had done in the weeks leading up to the game. Sanchez impressed all in his second game, and so did the Jets defense, which held the Patriots offense without a touchdown. The Patriots led only 9-3 at halftime, and allowed the Jets to hang around and get the eventual comeback win, 16-9.

Brady threw the ball 47 times but completed just 23 passes in the loss. While Brady may just be trying to find his rhythm these first few weeks, Bill Belichick has no intention of giving up on the pass-heavy offense that the Patriots were so successful with in 2007.

The Patriots then had impressive wins in weeks three and four against the Atlanta Falcons and Baltimore Ravens. The defense allowed the Falcons to score just ten points. The Ravens offense was then held to just 14 points in the week four win. However, Brady was still having some issues with accuracy and communication with receivers.



THE LEGENDARY TITANS BLOWOUT

These fallacies were exposed in week five against the 4-0 Denver Broncos. The Patriots were working on all cylinders in the first half, as they rushed out to a 17-7 lead at halftime against the league's statistically best defense. The momentum, however, completely shifted after halftime as Broncos' quarterback Kyle Orton led a 98-yard touchdown drive with minutes left in the game, tying the score and forcing the game into overtime. The Broncos won the game on a 41-yard Matt Prater field goal.

Just when fans began to push the panic button, however, hope appeared in the form of a hapless Tennessee Titans team. Playing his first game in snow this season, Brady demonstrated that the hostile weather was not a hindrance to his throwing arm, as he threw an NFL-record five touchdown passes in the second quarter. Although the final score was 59-0, it could have easily been 100-0 had the Patriots not benched Brady early in the third quarter. Next up for the Pats is a matchup with the 0-6 Tampa Bay Buccaneers in London, sure to be another cakewalk, as the Pats have taken the division lead even while Brady is still finding his rhythm. This offense was the greatest offense in NFL history just two years ago. We can't expect the same results, but this is still a great team that has yet to reach its full potential.

## BLS Football Finally Wins

By **SANCHAY JAIN, I**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Boston Latin School, rejoice! Our football team has recently gone on an unprecedented two-game winning streak.

In all fairness, the boys in purple are an incredibly hardworking crew. As the only urban school in the highly competitive Dual County League, the team has struggled to add to its win-column in recent years. Putting the annual trouncing of Boston English High School aside, its last win in general occurred in 2006. Entering the season, the Wolfpack's last DCL win occurred in 2005.

Despite the negative outcomes of years past, the team has remained upbeat and optimistic about the 2009 season. As Connor Dougherty (I) put it, "We didn't have any particular expectations, as much as we had a goal. That goal was to create a new face for Latin Football and to turn this program around."

The improvement of Clemente

Field, the team's practice facility, was arguably the most important change affecting the team this year. In past years, the team honed its skills at Clemente while inhaling dust and injuring themselves on the rocks and glass. "Anyone who saw the old Clemente could tell that it was not a good place to practice everyday," said Quarterback Jon Harrington (I). "The new practice field is amazing." Having a new turf field has limited injuries, but would it lead to more victories?

The answer was yes, arriving in dramatic fashion. As the Wolfpack battled Stoneham in Week 2, the team found itself trailing 19-7 at the half. Nevertheless, the team fought back, demonstrating poise and resiliency with the defense shutting out Stoneham in the second half. With two minutes left in regulation, Harrington led a drive reminiscent of Tom Brady, and sealed the one point win with a touchdown pass to tight end, Trevor Sybertz (I).

The following week, the team faced

By **MICHEAL TOMASINI, II**  
STAFF WRITER

It is safe to say that college football season, and it is safe to say that this season's outcome is becoming very clear. It is likely that Alabama and Florida will face off in the Bowl Championship Series National Championship game. The Boston College Eagles are going to surpass expectations at the outset of the season. Despite having preseason rankings as low as 68th overall, they have battled their way to a 4-2 record and second place in the Atlantic Coast Conference Atlantic Division.

The Eagles ended last season with high hopes for the future. Coach Jeff Jagodzinski had led them through a



TEBOW BARRELING TO THE HEISMAN

were to interview for the job, he would be fired. Jagodzinski nonetheless interviewed for the job and was promptly dismissed from his post at BC. Their hardships, however, did not end there. Starting quarterback Dominique Davis was suspended for the 2009 season on account of academic ineligibility, and 2008 ACC Defensive Player of the Year Mark Herzlich was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer. Rivals.com stated that, "Few college programs ... have endured offseasons as discouraging as what Boston College has gone through this year." If BC were to succeed again, despite the overwhelmingly demoralizing offseason, "it would represent a stunning accomplishment."

Yet succeed they have. The Eagles began by promoting longtime defensive coordinator Frank Spaziani to head-coach and by searching for new options for the quarterback position. Their match, David Shinskie, was a 25-year-old minor league baseball player who decided to take another shot at football. Since winning the starting job he has led the Eagles to victory with his steady arm and consistent play. Coupled with their always steady defense and offensive line, the new head-coach and quarterback are poised to make another run at the ACC title.

Meanwhile, Tim Tebow and the Florida Gators have proven the critics right. Marching to an undefeated record through their first five games, the Gators are prepared to seize a second consecutive national championship title. According to Rivals.com, "this season will be somewhat of a disappointment if the Gators don't win the national title." Despite suffering a major concussion during Week 4 against Kentucky, Tebow was back on the field leading his Gators to victory over LSU in their next game. This is just one example of Tebow's courage and skills, and is one of the main reasons why he is the frontrunner for the Heisman Trophy.

The ultimate success of Tebow and Florida, or even of the Eagles, will not be known until January, but for now we are assured that the rest of this season will not disappoint.

off rival, Tyngsboro, feeling the need to avenge a previous loss. "We were dying to get revenge," said Captain Sam Adams (I). "We lost 27-26 after leading 26-0 at the half." This time around, BLS routed Tyngsboro, 47-28. Three weeks into the season, Harrington had thrown more touchdown passes than Brady!

Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end. In the case of the Wolfpack, it came in the form of a 31-0 shutout at the hands of Waltham. Inconsistency has been a major flaw of the team, which has once again settled it into a sub-500 record. However, this does not mean that our boys in purple are planning on finishing the season with only two wins. On the contrary, the team is eagerly anticipating several upcoming games, including one against Lincoln-Sudbury, whom BLS has not defeated in 20 years. With the passion and determination they demonstrated during their two-game winning streak, the players will no doubt be able to accomplish this seemingly daunting task.

## Spotlight Trevor Sybertz



By **ALI GHORBI, I**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If you take a walk down the senior hallway, it is hard to miss Trevor Sybertz; he has got more swag than Kanye West and Jay-Z put together. He is often seen rocking a pair of crusty white Air Max 90s, sweatpants and a tee. Like Kanye West, he has a very short temper, known to give swirlies to anybody that looks at him the wrong way. Trevor really "runs this town." Born on the mean streets of West Roxbury, Trevor is the perfect example of self-made man. At a very young age, Trevor was forced to provide for his own family, often seen around Westie selling bubblegum and candy with his boy Danny Mac.

I first met this stud at the young age of five. Entering the big yellow bus on my first day at the Patrick Lyndon School, I saw him grilling me from the back of the bus. As I looked closer, I saw that we had the exact same blue sweater with a green stripe, same Vans sneakers, and same haircut: the mushroom cut. Trevor was the first one to rock the mushroom cut, and every other child that lived in the United States in the late 90s and early 2000s quickly followed suit. I approached this menacing figure at the back of the bus, and began talking to him. Surprisingly, he accepted me into his clique, and the two of us began a friendship that would last for years.

Ever since I met Trevor, I have never met anybody that is more well-rounded. While maintaining a 3.0 grade point average, he is one of the most athletic people at our school. He has been playing football and baseball for Boston Latin School since 8th grade. Trevor has been on the Varsity Football team since his junior year and on the Varsity Baseball team since sophomore year. Trevor's playmaking ability on both fields has not gone unnoticed. Professional scouts make frequent appearances at both his football and baseball games. One scout from the Minnesota Vikings compares his skills as Wide Receiver to that of Randy Moss, "He reminds me a lot of Moss, his length, his great hands, and his speed makes him a downfield threat. He will surely be in the NFL within couple years." But wide receiver is not his only position on the gridiron; he is also a linebacker. It is said that he tackles so hard that he makes even the biggest men on the field cry for their mothers.

Trevor is not only a great athlete, but also one of the best bundle boys in the history of Roche Bros. For nearly three years, Trevor has been bagging groceries for citizens of West Roxbury. During the summer, Trevor works at Boston Baseball Camp, teaching youngsters the fundamentals of baseball, and how to properly inject themselves with steroids, to further increase their skills. What makes Trevor different from others in our grade is his determination. Whether he is taking the extra step in the classroom, or spending an extra hour in the weight room, Trevor is truly unique.



SPORTS

Red Sox Falter in '09

By AADHAR MAHAJAN, I  
SPORTS WRITER

Nine months of hard work was undone in a half inning where getting one strike became impossible. There is no knowing whether or not the Red Sox would have won the next two games if Jonathan Papelbon had been able to strike out the final Angels' batter, but the possibility of a comeback was good. Game Four would have had John Lackey face Jon Lester at Fenway Park. Lackey has been horrendous at Fenway, while Lester maintained a 6-1 record for the season. This would have led to a deciding Game Five with Josh Beckett on the mound against Jared Weaver. I'd take my chances with Beckett in the playoffs everyday of the week. He has been one of the best playoff performers in postseason HISTORY. This would have resulted in an interesting match up with the Yankees. I am not sure they would have won the series, but it would have been the most enthralling thing on television. After the American League Championship Series, the World Series would just be against a weak hitting National League team. However, all of this is only wishful thinking because Papelbon couldn't throw a strike

before giving up four runs. In the first two games of the series, pitching was not the problem, hitting was. It is really hard to win when you score one

run in two games. The concerning part is that I cannot foresee any moves that the Red Sox could make during the off-season that would significantly improve the lineup. For the time being, their lineup should remain the same; Kevin Youkilis, Dustin Pedroia, Jacoby Ellsbury, Victor Martinez, J.D. Drew and David Ortiz, who actually ended up having a really good season, are all going to be staying where they are. The only thing the team can possibly do is find a decent shortstop, or hope Jed Lowrie improves



BETTER LUCK NEXT YEAR

himself. Although Mike Lowell's health is an issue, he was still productive.

Finding a replacement for him is not absolutely necessary because of Youkilis' and Martinez's ability to play multiple positions. Jason Bay is a free agent this off-season, and I believe that the Red Sox should make it a top priority to bring him back. He has been amazing since the trade last year and there is no one on the market who can replicate what he did. The only guy comparatively close is Matt Holliday, but he has shown that he is a much better hitter when he is in the National League than in the American League. Letting Bay go would make the lineup worse, but bringing him back would keep the status quo. The Red Sox has a stacked lineup that was just not able to produce consistently and perform when it was needed most.

The pitching for the Red Sox should

be better next year. If Lester matures and further improves, he could be one of the best pitchers in the league, and win the Cy Young award next year. Josh Beckett should be his usual reliable, dominant self. Clay Buchholz proved himself during the last three months of the season to be worth all of the hype we have heard for the past two years. If he continues his growth, he will win many games for the Red Sox next year. I believe that Daisuke Matsuzaka has learned his lesson to lay off the doughnuts this offseason and show up to spring training, ready to perform like he did in 2008. Tim Wakefield had one of his best seasons this year, making the All-Star team. Honestly, anything above .500 from a team's fifth starter is great, and Wakefield has proven he is more than capable of doing that. The bullpen was filthy this season, with everyone having an ERA under 3.50. Even though Papelbon imploded against the Angels, he and Mariano Rivera are the cream of the closer crop. If the Red Sox are unable to re-sign him, Daniel Bard will be more than capable of replacing him.

In the end, I don't see how the Red Sox can improve much on the offensive side, but its pitching dominance should make up for it.

BLS Golf: Happiest Team in the School

By DEVIN KIRBY, II  
STAFF WRITER

After Jake Urso (II) broke a rake during one of his matches, coach Kevin Bernazzani ('04) asked him why he did it. Urso replied that he was "testing the rake for durability" and had thrown the splintered piece of wood into a nearby group of trees because "it's made of wood and deserves to be with its family." Colorful anecdotes like this highlight the adventures of the Boston Latin School Golf team, projected at 0-11 but, according to Coach Bernazzani, "has more fun than any team at the school." Led by co-captains Andrew "Sally" DeAngelo (I) and Dual County League All-Star, Pat Hastings (I), the team has had more than its fair share of shenanigans. Although it is still seeking its first win, the team is filled with young talent, such as DCL All-Star, Brian Mylett (II), Gordon "Gomo" Hall (II), "Marvelous" Mark Monday (II), freshman sensations Ryan "The Future" Dougherty and

"Nasty" Chris Nasti.

With a long and hopefully successful road ahead, the team is undeterred by its lackluster start this season. Where the golf team really shines, however, is in its spirit, its collective ability to have a good time even at the worst matches. The team gets along very well, always having a story or two that cannot be retold without laughter. In one of the more recent meets, Mylett and DeAngelo convinced the opposing team that they were brothers, each putting on an equally ridiculous half-Canadian, half-Scottish accent. When asked if they won, Mylett replied, "Who cares, we had a good time."

All BLS teams should strive for this kind of spirit. The golf team, odd as it may seem, is actually a model team as far as collaboration and love for the game are concerned. Nevertheless, the team members know that a game must be given honest effort.

Coach Bernazzani has a unique style of coaching -- he has the ability

to be serious and humorous at the same time. After Coach Bernazzani adjusted



A CINDERELLA STORY OF EIGHT GOLF LEGENDS

Hastings' club selection, Hastings admitted that, "I'm stupid. You're smart. I was wrong. You were right. You're the best. I'm the worst. You're very good-looking. I'm not attractive." That pretty much sums up the feelings for Coach B.

Unfortunately, golf gets little love from the BLS community. There are people who say that it is easy for the golf team to joke around because golf is not a "real sport." Really? Let me show you some numbers: LeBron James made \$28 million in endorsements in 2008, second only to Tiger Woods, who made \$105 million endorsements. In fact, James, one of the most recognizable people in pro-sports, made as much as Phil Mickelson, the second top-earning golfer in the same year. So for those of you who dismiss golf as a joke, think again. Golf is the ultimate game of finesse, and I challenge anyone who thinks he or she is more athletic than golfers to try to score a hole-in-one.

A "Teix Message" to the MLB

By STEVEN PRINCIPI, I  
& BRIAN SITCAWICH, I  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER & STAFF WRITER

For most teams, eight years without a World Series title is not considered a failure. Most teams, however, are not the New York Yankees. Nearly a decade of disappointments were capped off by an embarrassing 2008 campaign in which they failed to make the playoffs for the first time in 13 years. A change was clearly needed. This change came in the form of the three most sought after players on the free agent market, CC Sabathia, AJ Burnett, and Mark Teixeira.

Reaching into their bottomless pockets, the New York Yankees were able to choose the free agents they wanted. After signing Sabathia and Burnett, the Yankees had appeared to fix the glaring problem of their starting rotation. However, the off-season was not over for the Yankees—not by a long shot. Just as the Boston Red Sox were nearing an

agreement with the best first baseman in the league not named Albert Pujols, the Yankees shocked the nation by stealing him away with another ridiculous contract. Once again the Yankees' willingness to take risks and overpay for players that they want won them the most coveted players on the free agent market, a gamble that paid off for them this time.

If the three big name signings from the off-season were the most important reasons for the Yankees turnaround, the youth movement implemented this year was a close second. Emerging star second baseman Robinson Cano improved significantly from



AN A-BOMB IN THE CLUTCH?

the previous season, posting an average of well over .300 and turning into one of the best fielding second basemen in the game. Centerfielders Brett Gardner and Melky Cabrera put up numbers far better than expected at the plate while adding a new element to the team: speed. Gardner racked up almost 30 steals in an injury-shortened season, drawing comparisons to Benny 'the Jet' Rodriguez of the Sandlot, while Cabrera performed extremely well in centerfield. Young pitcher Joba Chamberlain added depth to the starting rotation and Phillip Hughes turned one of the worst bullpens

from a year ago into one of the best. The performance of these emerging players gave the team a desperately needed influx of youth and sparked the Yankees to much higher levels of performance.

Another significant reason for the Yankees' success is the closer position. Mariano Rivera has once again been among the league's most dominant closers in the game. Red Sox fans have finally quieted the talks of Jonathan Papelbon being the next Rivera after another season in which his stats have fallen. While Papelbon was off finishing the Red Sox's 2009 campaign, Rivera was finishing off the Twins effortlessly. Phil Hughes and Mariano Rivera have proven themselves to be the best closing duo in baseball.

It is clear that this all-star cast of ball-players is here to stay, continuing the tradition of winning that Yankees' fans have recently missed. There is no sign of this team fading in the near future. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of the bums from the Bay Area...